

Vol. 30 Nos

[5]

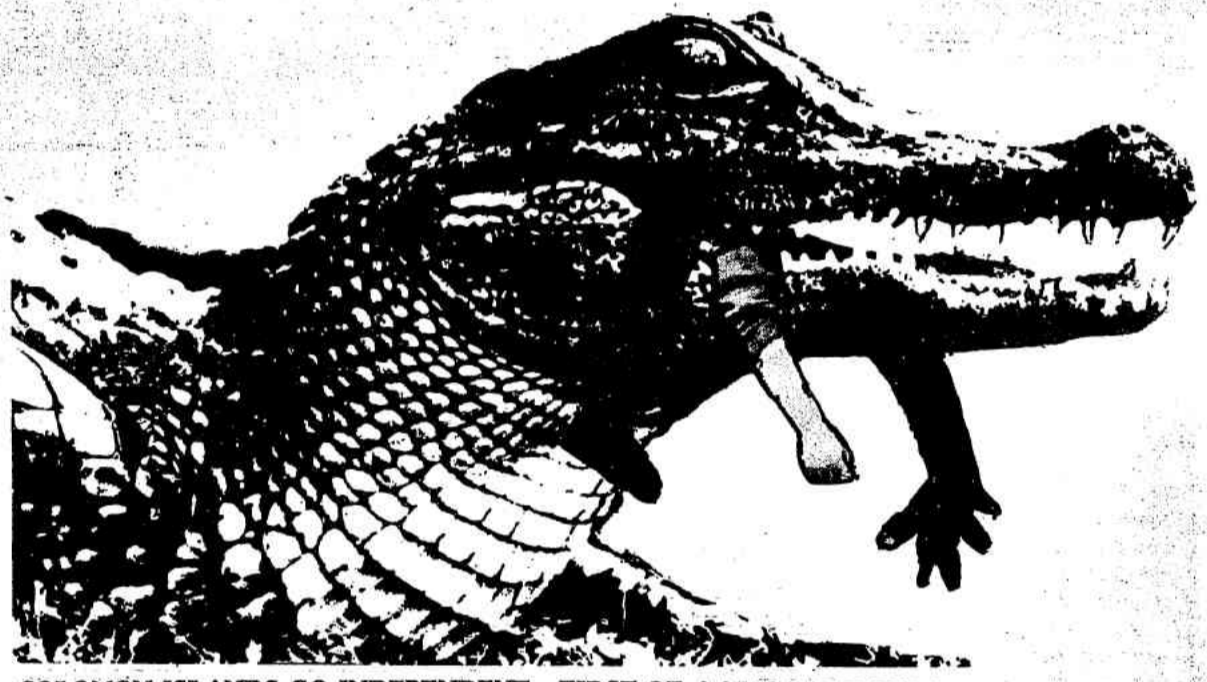
WORONI
 JULY 18, 1978.



WHY MEDIBANK TURNED INTO A SOGGY PULP.



IS THIS THE FUTURE OF ROCK & ROLL?



SOLOMON ISLANDS GO INDEPENDENT. FIRST OF A TWO-PART SERIES



ARE INCOME TAXES KILLING SOCIALISM. RALPH WILLIS TELLS . . .

LETTERS

feminism

I would like to comment about Gaby's article in Woroni (June 2) "The Women's Officer Report".

Being a feminist myself, I do agree that there is blatant sexism on university campuses and that the feminists do get a hard deal. However, I do find some of her gripes rather childish. If we are going to get a fair deal, right, we have to fight for it, but for goodness sake, don't dramatise the whole issue.

For example, I have no doubt that the women at Melbourne State College had a bitter fight to get their room. But if the men wanted a room for themselves, I imagine that they would have to fight just as long and as hard, especially if they had such determined opposition as the women's groups. There is also the question of which room could be spared for what might be viewed eventually as an elitist group, regardless of whether they are women or not.

The business of referring to some people by the use of "technical anatomical terms for female genitalia": haven't you ever heard women, men and children refer to one another as pricks, dick-heads, etc.? That just boils down to plain bad language and can hardly be used as a valid argument in the sexism debate. Besides, I do recall hearing men call each other "cunts", don't you? And anyway, I didn't know that these are technical terms. Perhaps you didn't mean those words which the dictionary defines as not being accepted usage!

As for being labelled ratbag lesbians/feminists, wouldn't it be true to say that all groups who make their voices heard in any touchy issues are given derogatory labels by those people who have little or no sympathy with that particular group.

The rest of your article I agree with—men are being childish if they have to react against the "threat" of women in such ways as crude posters and blatantly sexist functions.

I haven't seen a copy of 'Women's News', so I can't comment on the right wing crap sheet attempting to diffuse women's liberationist ideas'. But in retaliation, my opinion is that

this 'Women's Officer Report' is the raving of a left wing radical feminist man-hater.

If we are going to take up sexist and racist issues, then we are supposedly taking up equality issues. That, to me, means that we are fighting for equality, not supremacy. We don't need to put men down so as to show ourselves their equals—after all shit-sliding is not going to get anyone anywhere. We don't need to stoop to the level of those men who can only fight back with bad language and bad manners.

The issues which should have priority as far as women are concerned are abortion rights, legal rights, especially in sexual offence cases, and the right to be socially recognised for the work we do as individuals.

I would suggest that Gaby use the space available in Woroni for interesting articles. How the abortion debate is going. More on the Hite Report. Maybe a series of articles telling possible rape victims, ourselves, who the sympathetic people are, what our legal rights are, and a few basic hints as to what to do first thing if you've been raped etc. What women of note have done around the world for political and social reform, and what the reactions and consequences have been etc.

I'm not really interested in the sensationalist type crap on the pettier sexist issues—it's not worth printing—certainly not half a page of it.

R. Megirian.

yabsley

This letter concerns the issue of voluntary unionism and one Michael Yabsley.

I think that it is necessary for the student body to know a bit about the person who is supporting this attack on students, to realise that he is a dangerous person.

I had a conversation with Yabsley during the last Students' Association meeting. Questioned on the necessity of A.U.S. as a focal point whereby all students can unite, he replied: "Give me ten minutes with Mr Carrick and I would do more for students than A.U.S." How many people have access to Mr Carrick? Is Michael a competent spokesperson for students in general?

Asked how and why he had special access to Mr Carrick, he attempted to assert that everyone did. When I suggested it was because he was a member of the ruling class he replied something to the effect that his father is not so well off as many farmers are. Then I posed the question how did you

get to South Africa following sixth form: "Oh mum and dad paid. I'm sure Peter Cardwell has travelled more than me."

Students should become aware that people like Yabsley do not represent students in general. They do not know what it is like to be anyone else than a member of the ruling class. They are what they are because of the family they were born into.

I don't want people like Yabsley to speak on my behalf. If students are to be heard they must be united. Everyone might not agree with everything A.U.S. and the S.A. is doing, but I contend that the benefits of these organisations far outweigh the bad points.

Remember the successful TEAS strike and demonstration in 1976. That wouldn't have been possible but for A.U.S. co-ordinating all campuses. The proposed legislation will undermine students' political force, so that Fraser and Carrick can kick us around. A.U.S. is very educative in that it raises issues of which the public wouldn't be aware.

Remember: Power struggles improve governments. Don't let your power be undermined.

Bill Thompson.

library

I should like to make a few comments in reply to the Education Committee's report entitled 'Blood on the Stacks' in Woroni, (June 2).

The circulation statistics for books borrowed from the Chifley Building have risen by over 40% in the first term of 1978 (e.g. April 1977: 16,761 loans; April 1978: 23,267 loans). This increased use of the library has created some obvious problems. While the books are being shelved fairly quickly, there has been little time to check the sequence of books on the shelves. There are certain areas, such as the D's, H's and Q's where frequent browsing has resulted in a greater disorder. 'Shelf-reading' has definitely fallen behind in our attempt to keep books in circulation.

Students, on their part, could help us immensely by returning books used within the building to the 'Sorting Shelves' located near the stairwells on both floors. In addition, books which have only been consulted on shelves should also be returned to this area, as these are the books most often replaced in the incorrect sequence. We do appreciate your assistance and recognize the feeling of support for the Library implicit in the Woroni article.

Joye Volker
Acting Undergraduate
Services Librarian.



THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY UNION

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

- In accordance with Clause 16, Section 2 of the Constitution, I give notice that it will be necessary to hold an annual election of ten members of the Union Board of Management by the general membership of the Union.
- Persons eligible to vote are every ordinary and life member of the Union except a person suspended from membership under Section 9, sub-section 2 of the Constitution during the period of suspension.
- There are ten seats to be filled. The members elected will hold office for the period of one year from the date of election.
- I invite nominations of persons for election. Each person nominated must be an ordinary member or life member of the Union, unless his eligibility has been rendered invalid by Section 2, para 8 of the Election to the Union Board of Management Rules.
- Nominations must be made on a form prescribed and available from the Secretary and shall be signed by at least two members of the Union eligible to vote at an election and shall contain a written statement of the willingness to act, if elected.
- Nominations must reach me by 12 noon on Wednesday 26th July, 1978. They should be delivered to my office in the Union or posted to the Returning Officer, The Australian National University Union, Box 4, P.O. Canberra, ACT 2600. In either case the envelope should be clearly endorsed 'Nominations for annual election'.
- A list of persons qualified to vote and the relevant provisions of the Union Constitution and the Election to the Union Board of Management Rules may be consulted at my office and will be made available to any member on request.

(Sgd.) Clive D. Lee
Executive Officer,
Secretary to the Union.

Administrative Trainee Scheme

Each year the Public Service Board's Administrative Trainee Scheme in Canberra introduces about 30 graduates and diplomates to administrative work in the Australian Public Service. Training includes work rotations in three different departments and some formal course work.

Competition for the scheme is keen and selection standards are high. If you have a good academic record, potential for administrative work and an interest in being part of the team which helps to develop policy options and implement government programs, you should find this scheme rewarding.

Salaries range from \$9,168 per annum for a three year diploma (UG2 award) to \$10,343 for a First Class Honours degree and \$10,954 for higher degrees.

Promotion after training is on merit. Former trainees have found their training year has helped them to respond quickly and effectively to the demands of work areas which interest them.

The training year begins in January. If you are interested in a Public Service career in Canberra, you should obtain an application form and further information about the scheme from the **Regional Director's Office, Public Service Board, T. & G. Building, Hobart Place, Canberra City, A.C.T. 2601, (Telephone 498866)**

Applications should be submitted by 1 September 1978.

Australian Public Service

WE ARE WORONI

July 18, 1978

Editors: Sally Brockwell
David Browne
Steve Doyle
Drew Meek
Suze McKenzie
Virginia Murray
Beth Patterson
Meg Rodgers.

Address: P.O. Box 4,
Canberra 2600

Phone: 49 2444

Advertising is worth a 20% commission to the student bringing it in.

Publisher: Peter Cardwell
for the ANU
Students' Association

Printer: Queanbeyan Age.



FRASER = WASTE

Malcolm Fraser talks about the "need to cut out waste and duplication".

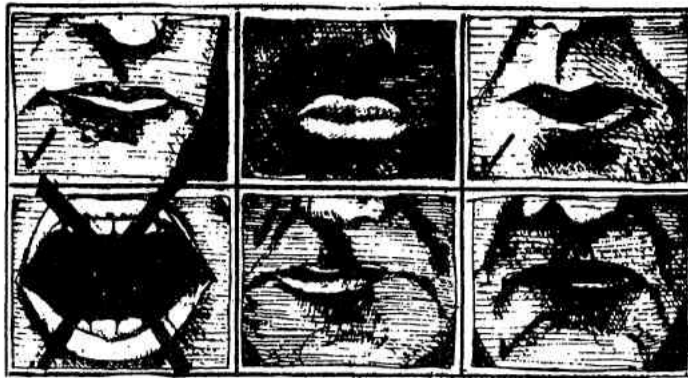
But what the Fraser government has done to Medibank means *more* waste and duplication.

The abolition of bulk-billing on July 1 will increase government costs by \$11.75 million. Alf Liebhold from the Doctors' Reform Society says 700 more staff will now be required.

This is nothing new. Far from cutting waste, the Fraser government has consistently introduced administrative inefficiencies into Medibank. When Medibank Private was set up in 1976, Medibank staff were moved from computer claims processing to manual duties such as double-checking benefit entitlements with private funds. In its 1976-7 Annual Report, the Health Insurance Commission complained that "the changes in the Commission's role and the diversity of hospital benefits payable by Medibank Private, created problems in using the computer system which had been programmed for the processing of hospital payments made under the original Medibank program. It was necessary, as an interim measure, to set up a system of manual processing and recording of hospital claims".

Voluntary health insurance is more expensive to the nation than compulsory health insurance. Both private health funds and Medibank Private are three to four times as inefficient as Medibank Standard. Before Medibank started, in 1973, the ratio of administrative costs to total costs in a private health fund was around 15%. In its first year of operation, Medibank got that figure down to 3.8%. (Similarly, where private health funds took up to 35 days to process claims, Medibank in its first year had an average of 7.2 days). When Medibank Private came in, its ratio zoomed up to 13.77%, while Medibank Standard hovered at 4.04%. With Fraser, the bad old days were back.

Bulk-billing. Uniform tax levy. Computerized cheque payments. These were the bases for Medibank's potential efficiency. Now they're either gone or drastically reduced. We have to suffer a health system which places unnecessary financial burdens on a country already in recession. Fraser talks of increasing efficiency, but what he does is to decrease efficiency.



In June the Fraser Government put the Ranger Uranium Project under the most repressive controls ever used for a mining project.

By a backdoor amendment to the Atomic Energy Act 1953, the Government has imposed the most stringent security arrangements on Ranger.

Ranger has been made an approved defence project and is now subject to the Approved Defence Projects Protection Act 1947.

This Act was passed in Cold War fever to combat what was perceived as a Communist threat to the establishment of the weapons testing range at Woomera. What the "threat" was mostly made up of was growing public opposition to the project because it was to be placed in Aboriginal land which had been specifically reserved for the benefit of Aborigines. Mining at Ranger is opposed today for the same reason. The Government is also using the same weapons to combat that opposition.

The Fox Inquiry specifically recommended against the use of the Atomic Energy Act to mine uranium at Ranger:

"We strongly recommend against the use of that Act for the grant of an authority to Ranger to mine uranium."

- Ranger Uranium Enquiry, Second Report (1977), p.248

The precise details of the new offences created by the Fraser Government's package of uranium legislation include the following:

Freedom of speech a crime: It is an Offence to speak out against Ranger.

Any person who, without reasonable cause or excuse, by speech or writing, advocates or encourages the prevention of the carrying out of the Ranger Uranium Project shall be guilty of an offence, and liable to a penalty of up to \$10,000 or 12 months imprisonment, or both.

- Approved Defence Projects Protection Act 1947, s.4
- Atomic Energy Act 1953 ss.17(4)(aa), 60.

Publication of strike threats against Ranger an offence

Any person who, without reasonable cause or excuse, by boycott or threat of boycott endeavours to prevent the carrying out of the Ranger Uranium Project, or publishes any threat of a boycott which may hinder the project, shall be guilty of an offence, and liable to a penalty of up to \$10,000 or 12 months imprisonment, or both.

- Approved Defence Projects Protection Act 1947, s.4
- Atomic Energy Act 1953, ss.17(4)(aa), 60.

Freedom of information about Ranger outlawed

Any person who *lawfully* has in his possession, acquires, or conceals a photograph or a note of information not already publicly available concerning quantities, production or treatment of uranium at Ranger, or publishes the information or gives

it to any one 'with intent to prejudice the defence of the Commonwealth' is guilty of an offence and liable to 20 years imprisonment. To have such 'intent', a person need not have done any particular act: the intent can be inferred from his or her general conduct or "his known character".

- Atomic Energy Act 1953, ss 5, 17(4)(aa), 44-47

Search and arrest without warrant

Any person reasonably suspected of having information not yet publicly available on the quantity, production and treatment of uranium at Ranger may be detained, searched and arrested without warrant by the police who may also seize any such information.

- Atomic Energy Act 1953, ss.5, 17(4)(aa), 50.

Restricted Access to the Ranger Project area

The Government now has the power to declare the Ranger area a restricted area under the Act, as has been done with the Atomic Energy Commission's Research Establishment at Lucas Heights, NSW, giving police absolute control over entry to the area; penalty for then being in the area: 2 years imprisonment.

- Atomic Energy Act 1953, s.56

The Overriding Police State provision

In the new Environment Protection (Nuclear Codes) Act 1978 is a provision, appropriately numbered section 13, which gives the Government the supreme power in the event of "a situation arising from a nuclear activity". The power is wide and ill-defined. It gives the Governor-General a discretion which is outside examination by the courts. It threatens to override all ordinary processes of law. So great is the threat to the civil liberties of all Australians that the Minister introducing the legislation acknowledged:

"the powers conferred on the Governor-General under this clause would need to be used with the utmost discretion. It is our hope and indeed our expectation that the provisions of the clause will never be invoked."

- Mr Groom, Minister for the Environment, Housing and Community Development, *Hansard* 10 April 1978, pp. 1296-7

The extent of the powers is as follows. How they will be used is anyone's guess.

Where the Governor-General is satisfied that the health or safety of persons or the environment is likely to be harmed by a situation resulting from a nuclear activity, and that existing laws are inadequate he may authorise a minister to take such action as he considers necessary to control and eliminate the hazards associated with the situation.

The Canberra Times closes entries for its National Short Story of the Year competition this Friday, July 21.

The competition is claimed to be "one of Australia's major literary events". If this is true, then there is something seriously wrong with Australian literature. The track record of the National Short Story competition is dreadful. The winners over the last two years have succeeded with stale, cliched and politically conservative stories.

The winner of the 1976 competition was one Maureen Pople from Pymble in Sydney. Her story was about a bikkie in a country town. The nasty bikkie defied authority, and did unmentionable things to young females down near the local river. The bikkie had the name of Chocka, and was a rip-off of *The Fonz*. Having scandalized the respectable townies, Chocka got befriended by a farmer's wife. Pople's story ended with Chocka turning up to lunch in nice clean clothes, instead of his grubby leathers. Moral: bikkies are potential boring bourgeois cretins underneath.

It's frightening to think that a major literary prize can be awarded to a story praising a character who sells out an interesting lifestyle in favour of a sterile existence. But 1976 was like that.

1977 brought new horrors. The winner of the competition was Patricia Rolfe, writer and company retainer with Kerry Packer's "Bulletin". Rolfe's story was about a former Vietnam demonstrator (now studying military sociology) who falls in love with a Vietnam veteran, and who realizes the folly of what she did. The student decides the Vietnam Moratorium was stupid when she finds the war veteran to be both human and intelligent. The depths of political analysis here is breathtaking. Maybe Rolfe has written a story this year informing the anti-uranium that Sir Phillip Baxter used to help cripples across the road.

The runner-up in the 1977 competition was by a Victorian vicar, David Townsend. The story was about a masked hero marksman who goes and shoots dead some terrorists holding defenceless humans as hostage in a cottage. The marksman turns out to be (lo and behold) the local vicar. The Reverend David Townsend no doubt is being funny in suggesting Christian clerics are proficient at putting small holes through human bodies. Still, you never know . . .

There you are. The last two National Short Story fests have produced stories about bikkies giving up freedom for security, students finding racialism is silly, and vicars who shoot terrorists. It is insulting to Australians to call such stories the front line of our imaginations. The stories were stereotyped full of cliched characters, and saying nothing new while reinforcing old prejudices. They were safe morality tales. They pointed out no directions to aspiring writers. In short, the stories were mediocre.

The winning entries for 1978 will be published in *The Canberra Times* on September 30. We can only wait in hope.

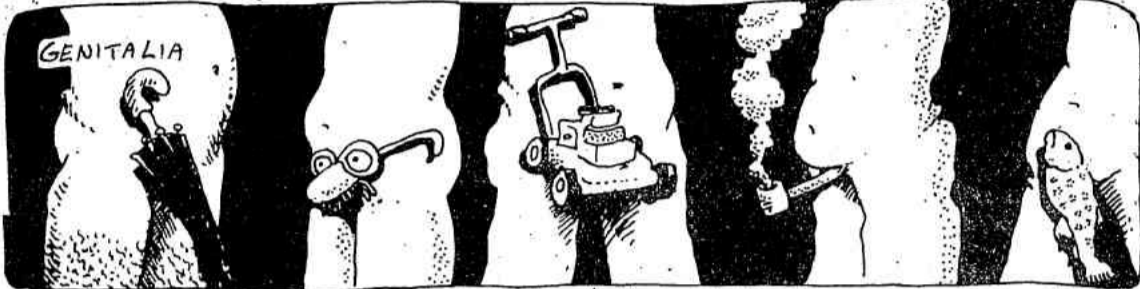


Bill Ramson
Dean of ANU's
Faculty of Arts
and one of the
judges this year.



A DIRTY LOOK AT
The Opposite SEX

The opposite sex is a mysterious and elusive commodity. Little or nothing is known about its dirtier qualities and no permission has been granted by Church or Police for serious research. What we do have, however, is LOTS and LOTS of conjecture. Some of the more interesting conjecture is presented here for the genuinely curious as a public service.



The opposite sex is generally presumed to be lumbered with genitalia. These pathetically outmoded organs are believed to be located on the lower half of the body, away from the eyes, nose and tongue. A number of artists impressions are shown. (Glance briefly then read on.)



Genitalia provides an environment for various plants and animals. Curly ferns and vines exist in abundance, constricting genital growth (see how nature compensates!!) Microscopic wombats and ducks dwell at skin level, eating dandruff and reading comics.

WHAT TO DO IF CONFRONTED BY A MEMBER OF THE OPPOSITE SEX:
Above all, don't panic! Phone your mother, S.I.D. if necessary. Stay off solids for ten days and ensure that your fly is secure. Avoid persons in uniform (they are cruel types and would openly laugh at your discomfort).
By the way - wash your hands before turning the page -

THE END



LUNCHTIME LEGENDS No. 10 IN THE NOW FAMOUS SERIES

LIES A REGION THAT NONE HAVE SEEN AND SURVIVED THE EXPERIENCE.

AND THAT'S WHERE BRIAN SNIGBINS COMES IN.

BEYOND THE FURTHEST REACHES OF THE HUMAN MIND,.....

EVERY DAY OF THE WORKING YEAR, BRIAN REMAINED DEVOTED TO HIS JOB. NORMALLY, HE WAS A TYPICAL, DULL, GOD-FEARING CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT. BUT.....

...IN THAT DARK REALM WHERE TIME SPACE CEASE TO EXIST.....

THERE WERE TIMES IN A MAN'S LIFE WHEN A CUP OF TEA AND AN ICED VOVO BISCUIT WERE NOT ENOUGH!

And at this point, we introduce Detective Sgt. Arthur Virus of the DREADED BRAIN POLICE, with CRISPIN the super-dog.

THE INTREPID SERGEANT LOST NO TIME IN DEALING WITH THE NEW MENACE... IN THE BEST WAY POSSIBLE.

UNFORTUNATELY, HE DIED AT THE TRAGICALLY EARLY AGE OF 59, FROM AN IMPLoded BRAIN.

BRIAN SNIGBINS PROSPERED AND WENT ON TO BECOME A LIFE MEMBER OF THE RINGWOOD DISTRICT AMATEUR LOBOTOMEE'S.

OUR SOCIETY IS WHAT IT IS TODAY THANKS TO MEN LIKE THESE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

NEWS

WHAT'S ON IN OTHER STATES

Western Australia

The Court Government passed legislation last year which banned compulsory student unionism. In WA, student unions are called 'guilds'. All 'guild fees' are now paid to the uni administration, which may pass on the money to the guild as it likes. Before the legislation, students had to vote before fees rose; now students have no say. No money the guild gets from the administration can be paid to AUS. This means guilds can't afford to belong to AUS. Nifty, huh? Court was the first politician to use the idea of stopping compulsory student unionism without stopping compulsory fees. Students are forced to pay fees without having the freedom of deciding how that money is spent. Carrick may end up doing the same trick in Canberra.

Victoria

The Hamer Government passed similar legislation this year. It's called the "Melbourne University (Amendment) Act 1978". It was proclaimed as law on May 17. The legislation is much the same as Court's, except it has a wonderful piece of pseudo-democracy. The Melbourne Uni SRC can't get money from student fees unless 25% of students vote for it. But even with a 25% vote, the University Council can still refuse to hand the money over. Carrick calls the 25% voting

condition 'democratic', but it's pure bullshit. Democracy means that whoever gets the vote gets the money. Most people on University Councils aren't elected by students, and it is not democratic to let such people have the final say on student spending. The Victorian legislation makes a 'services' fee compulsory, and 'political' fees (eg AUS) voluntary. Apparently compulsory unionism is okay as long as it isn't run by students.

Queensland

Here, in the home of democracy, the Bjelke-Petersen government hasn't joined the bash-the-students club yet, but is promising action later this year. At Griffith University in Brisbane, three Liberal students have applied to be exempted from paying uni fees. Each time they have been refused because their reasons have been unsubstantiated.

South Australia

At least this place has a Labor government. The Legislative Council tried to pass a University of Adelaide Act Amendment earlier this year, but the House of Assembly knocked it back. Three Adelaide Uni students appealed against their union fees in April, but got nowhere. Two of the students (Gerrard and Hamilton) appealed because the union fee was against their 'capitalist' philosophy - Workers' Party, it seems. The other student said he couldn't use Union facilities as he was a part-time student. Didn't do him much good. Adelaide Uni held a referendum on AUS membership on June 21, 22 and 23. 762 voted against seceding from AUS, and 538 voted for seceding.

WOOLIES CLOSES - PEOPLE ON LOW INCOMES HIT

The Woolworths supermarket in Civic closed on May 15. The reason for the supermarket closing was not that people didn't want it. It was making a profit. The company sold it because there was not enough room to extend the store. Probably also got a good price for the site.

The site, opposite the Monaro Mall is being developed by the company Jones Lang Wootton. Douglas Holman from JLW says the Centrepoint complex will be finished in October. The building is not being rebuilt, but refurbished. Centrepoint Complex is to directly compete with the Monaro Mall. There will be two levels of specialty shops - boutiques, jewellers, florists, chocolate shops, etc. The complex will cost somewhere around \$400,000.

Civic needs a low-cost supermarket more than it needs the 21 glossy shoppes proposed. There is now only one major supermarket in Civic serving low income people - Coles. Students living in Toad, Garran, Corin, Lennox, Narellan and the flats in Ballumbir Street now face a monopoly situation when they go shopping. Coles admit that they have increased both sales and staff in Civic since Woolworths closed.

Two ANU academics, John Dawson and Ian Alexander, have criticised the NCDC for letting too many shops in Civic. Both work in the Urban Research unit. Dawson and Alexander

believe the over-supply of retailing will be difficult to overcome. Considering that the NCDC is letting Jones Lang Wootton add over 1000 square metres of retail space in the Centrepoint complex, the situation will be harder to solve.

Both the NCDC and JLW defend their actions by pointing to the continuing interest of retailers in leasing space. Mr Holman from JLW says the level of leasing enquiries is 'extremely high'. But the attitude of retailers only shows that Civic is becoming a high-cost retail area, and that the low-cost element is being squeezed.

Civic serves one of the main concentrations of low-income people in Canberra. But its retail area is increasingly catering for higher income people. NCDC has done little to solve this problem. The Centrepoint Complex will probably attract the customers it wants - disco shoppers, feeling high in their plastic bubble of consumerism. The Coles supermarket will no doubt enjoy its monopoly. But does that mean it's right?

Canberra is supposed to be a planned city. But its cheapest supermarkets are now in the outer suburbs, while its low-cost accommodation is centred on Civic. The NCDC needs to do something about this. Indiscriminate commercial development is not a substitute for planning which ensures low-income needs are met.

the Co-op Bookshop

New releases in paperback

Chao:	Women under Communism	\$9.35
Teale:	Colonial Eve - Sources on Women in Australia	\$6.95
Jolliffe:	East Timor - Nationalism & Colonialism	\$9.95
Hoyle:	Energy or Extinction: The Case for Nuclear Energy	\$4.70
Hamilton:	Tax Savings for Teachers & Academics	\$3.75

CONCESSIONS AREA, A.N.U. PHONE 49 3550.

GRADUATES AND DIPLOMATES

Administering Government policy is a complex task. Before programs get off the ground, they must be planned, researched, financed, staffed and co-ordinated with other programs. Some need special treatment, like publicity, accessibility, systems for review or auditing.

If you are a graduate or diplomate, or will qualify this year and think you could contribute as part of the team which translates Government policy into action, think about joining the Australian Public Service as an Assistant Research Officer.

Salaries start at \$9,168 per annum for a three year diploma (UG2 award) and rise to \$10,343 per annum for a First Class Honours degree and \$10,954 per annum for higher degrees. Promotion is on merit.

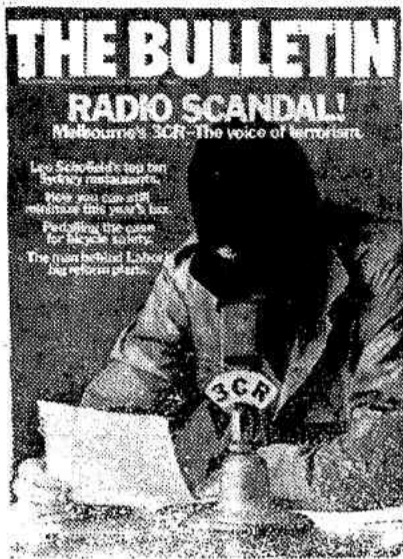
Ask for an application form and more information about the work from the Regional Director's Office, Public Service Board T. & G. Building, Hobart Place, Canberra City, A.C.T. 2601. (Tel. 49 8866)

Applications should be submitted by 1 September 1978.

AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC SERVICE

PSP 15.78C

WORON: 5



On Wednesday, June 21, "The Bulletin" a nation-wide magazine published by Consolidated Press, carried a front page photograph and a leading article attacking Melbourne's one and only Community Radio Station, 3CR. Melbourne Dailies, "The Sun", "The Age", and the nation-wide "Financial Review", also carried this photograph and the leading comments in the form of an advertisement for "The Bulletin".

On Wednesday night, 21st June, the 3CR Management Committee and Staff broadcast their outrage at this attack. In their statement they said: "3CR is an Australian community radio station. It is totally opposed to terrorism as it is also totally opposed to racism in any form including Zionism. "For this stand, 3CR quotes the United Nation's General Assembly which has publicly condemned Zionism as a racist philosophy and practice.

3CR was granted a 'restricted commercial' licence after public hearings in June, 1975. It is independent of the government and the A.B.C.

The station carries NO commercial advertising and is NON-PROFIT. It is financed almost entirely by listeners' subscriptions and by member groups. It was built brick by brick, and is substantially run, by volunteer workers. Over 150 volunteers are rostered to do the work of the station each week. 138 organisations are affiliated to 3CR with a combined membership of over 150,000 and more than 3,700 listeners are financially committed to 3CR. Hundreds of people broadcast on 3CR every week. Programmes range from child-care to preserving steam trains; from opposition to uranium mining to pedaling bicycles; from a women's news service to 'Nostalgia Unlimited'; from Coffee House Radio and Shake, Rattle & Roll to 'Palestine Speaks' 3CR is committed to promotion of Australian musicians and writers and broadcasts over 70% Australian performances and over 40% Australian compositions in its weekly quota. This is higher than any other radio station in Australia - a fact which was recently acknowledged by the Broadcasting Tribunal in its Annual Report to Parliament.

THESIS TYPING

Contact: G. CARTER

Telephone: 88 7203

Reasonable rates.

HOUSING HASSLES

A report is being prepared describing the discussions of the Management Committee for Non-collegiate Student Accommodation to date.

The Management Committee has been charged by the Vice Chancellor to-

- 1) advise on the needs for such accommodation;
- 2) recommend appropriate levels of tariffs and rents;
- 3) act as landlord of the premises concerned (eg. admitting tenants, collecting tariffs and rents, arranging for maintenance of premises, dealing with complaints, inspections and cleaning);
- 4) act where appropriate as the University's agent with respect to the use of non-University premises for student residence."

Student accommodation under the management of the committee are:

	No. of Places	Weekly Rent
Lennox A Block	18	\$12
Corin	57	\$12
Narellan	48	\$15
Houses	100	\$42-64
Hackett Flats 1 Br	6	\$32
2 Br	24	\$44

At present 49 houses are allocated for student use. These have been set aside from year to year, in varying numbers, usually as a percentage of the University's total housing stock

On the basis of first preferences requests for student houses and expected demand the committee has resolved

"(1) that a fixed number of University dwellings be made available on an annual basis and that those dwellings be managed as a single unit;

(2) that for 1979 the number of dwellings be made available for student occupancy be not less than 60."

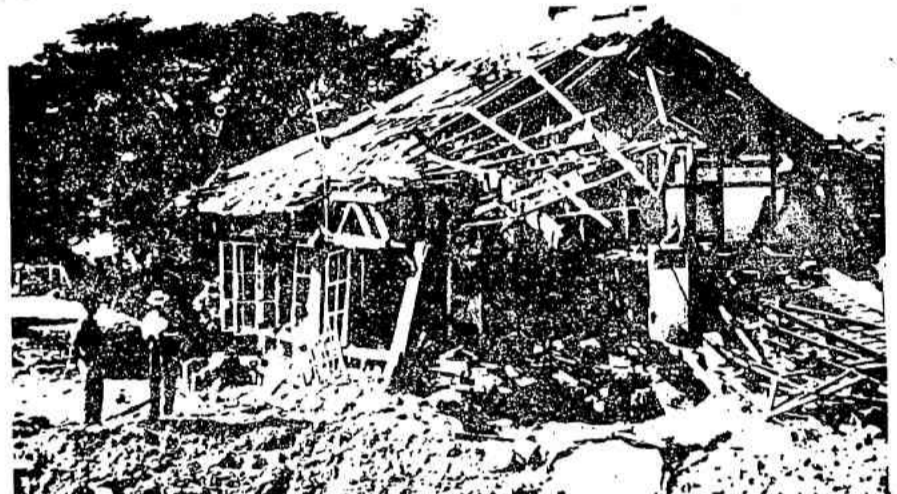
This represents an increase of houses presently allocated.

Student representatives argued initially for a 'capacity to pay' principle as the basis of rent assessment but were unsuccessful. The University wants market rents to be charged. A compromise scheme which has been agreed upon appears to meet most needs but considerable difficulties still exist. It was clear that students were not prepared to accept any form of market rents and that the university would not, and could not (given its financial position) agree to a general subsidised housing program.

Accordingly the Committee resolved - that future rents will be set only on the basis of *real* costs actually incurred with no profit element involved.

And what are the real costs?

Provision for	% Total cost
insurance	1.5
rates	12.7
administration	8.5
maintenance	19.6
furnishings	16.4
vacancy loss	15.4
land replacement	4.3
dwelling replacement	21.6



The last three elements warrant particular attention.

Vacancy loss

This figure is calculated on an average eight weeks vacancy per year. Previously vacancy loss was regarded by the university as being of the order of 12 weeks per year. No figures could be produced to support this. Indeed students felt that the figure of 8 weeks may have been slightly excessive but that a margin of safety should be allowed.

Land Replacement

The theory behind this component is that when the 99 year lease expires, the university will have to repurchase the lease at the full cost applicable then.

Not only is this theory debunked by the Else-Mitchell Inquiry into land tenures, but it is based on notions of current cost accounting which the student representatives believe are unsound in practice, however tidy they may appear in theory.

Dwelling Replacement

It is based on the notion that the house will fall down after 53 years. Now the figure of 53 years appears arbitrary enough, but since the maintenance component has been substantially increased there is no reason to assume that the building will cease to be functional after that, or indeed any specific period of time.

In any case, if the building does disappear it will not be replaced by an equivalent house but a completely different one in structure and initial cost. It cannot, therefore, be said to be a "dwelling replacement" provision in any real sense of the word. If anything like a capital cost component is to be charged it should be an historic cost component - some portion of the original cost to the university of the house. We believe houses do not disappear after 53 years - they may be destroyed by fire etc., in which case insurance may be claimed, or they may be sold.

We have enough faith in the University's business acumen to believe that if a house is sold, it will not be sold at a loss. Furthermore, since a number of the houses were given or bequeathed to the university originally, there is no real justification for an historic cost component anyway

The replacement provisions together constitute 25.9% of the 'cost' of the operation of the proposed rents, which should not be there.

The committee has yet to consider the letting agreements. At the moment, tenants are liable individually and as a group for the *whole* rent of their house. Given the principle of group letting, we believe that the individual liability should be removed and that tenants should only be liable for their share of the rent. This may necessitate some changes in the actual leases themselves but there would appear to be no major problems here.

Two important issues which have so far been avoided are the position of students on extremely low incomes and the overall independence of the student housing operation from the rest of the University's housing stock.

When the committee comes to consider the position of Lennox 'A', Corin and Narellan perhaps the first problem can be solved but the University has been strangely silent so far on the second issue.

The student representatives believe that the student housing operation must be divorced from the mainstream of University housing policy and that unless this is done, unless the independence of the operation is ensured, then the interests and needs of students cannot be effectively catered for.

It is to be hoped that a meeting with all student tenants before the report of this committee is finally accepted can be arranged. In the meantime anyone who has any ideas or comments on the issues raised here is more than welcome to contact me.

Mark Menchin.



Four programs based on the recent Women and Labour Conference held at Macquarie University will be broadcast in Coming Out 78 on ABC Radio 2 from Saturday, August 5 at 5.05 pm and on ABC Radio 3 from Friday, August 11 at 7.15 pm.

Program 1: an account of the suffragettes. In particular Adel Pankhurst Walsh, one of the famed Pankhursts and daughter of Emily, who migrated to Australia and whose life in many ways was an expression of the contradictions of the suffragette movement.

Program 2: the experience of work looking at the nature of women's work, specially during the Depression and the Second World War, and the implications for the present.

Program 3: the different ways in which women have been involved in trade unions. In some areas such as nursing and clerical work, women have traditionally formed the passive rank and file of unions directed by men, while in others women have formed small but very active groups which have affected the male leadership. This program includes recent material on unions ranging from the Nurses' Union in Queensland to the NSW branch of the Builders' Labourers Federation.

Program 4: the experiences of ordinary people as well as the famous. Called 'My Life and Times' it will include women talking about the insights and activities of their own lives or of relatives whose lives they are adding to the written record of Australian history.

FEMINISTS AND URANIUM CONFERENCE 19th & 20th Aug.

Princes Hill High School, North
Carlton, Melbourne.

The aim of this conference is to explore the political, social and economic implications of a centralized nuclear industry and its effect on women, including special sections on migrant, Aboriginal, homosexual and politically active women. It will be a good chance for women within and outside the anti-nuclear movement to realize the potential influence of a nuclear future on their lives.

There will also be a discussion of the role of women within the movement, past and future, and a critical look at the 'back to earth' type movement from a feminist perspective.

Like 'Energy & U' the Saturday will involve presentation and analysis of the issues and the Sunday will be concerned with the strategies, involvement and discussion in workshop groups. There will be a dance on the Saturday night and child care will be provided throughout. If you are interested and have any questions I'll be pleased to answer them.

Contact AUS Women's Dept
(03) 347 7433
or Sue at Canberra MAUm
48 0885.

A FEMINIST'S STORY for Ann & Susan

When I joined ANU three-and-a-half years ago I came in the mistaken belief that there was no difference between a female and a male academic. I have since learned that the differences are quite profound.

The ANU, and especially my Department (Sociology), with its liberal and Labor values, does not practice blatant prejudices against women academics. But there are subtle, informal practices within the University that people are not consciously aware of, which made me realize that a senior, tenured woman academic is an anomaly, a deviant not fitting to the normal expectations of the male academic world.

There were, for example, the charity women's organizations that would send me notices addressed to Mrs Baldock, c/o Dr Baldock. There were, for instance, all those occasions when callers on the phone, or at the office would assume that a female voice was that of a secretary, who would take messages or run errands for the male Dr Baldock.

These are trivial incidents, of course, but are they not similar to the 'Hey Boy' that black professionals in the USA have been subjected to for so long? Are women, like blacks, always assumed to be in subordinate, dependent positions?

Within my own Department there was the genuine isolation and loneliness I experienced as the only woman sociologist. I do not blame my colleagues for their wish to play golf with their male friends (I am a lousy sport), for their preoccupation with sports in informal departmental gatherings, and their Friday night drinks at the pub. But the existence of such informal networks that take up so much of the time of male academics (time I should add that women academics with family commitments can ill afford) does leave women academics extremely isolated. It leaves them without opportunity to discuss their own work with their colleagues, or simply to be friendly with them.

It is not surprising that in such circumstances one begins to look for support and friendship elsewhere. I found this kind of contact outside of my Department in the interdisciplinary programmes of European Studies and Women's Studies. At first such contacts came more or less by chance, and without much special commitment. However, in the course of 1977 my personal circumstances changed to an extent that the then only partially acknowledged desire for more worthwhile professional and personal contacts became a genuine need.

At that time my husband, who had been unable to find a permanent position at ANU decided to apply elsewhere and accepted a position in Western Australia. When I opted to stay at ANU until I could find an acceptable senior position in Perth I certainly received the professional support of my male colleagues. But my personal isolation continued. While this had been acceptable when I had the support of my husband in my personal and academic life, it became nearly unbearable when I was left by myself with two small children and hardly any informal contacts with any of my colleagues and their families.

I thus began to look with more deliberation for professional contacts and friends outside of the close sociological circle. I also possibly became more aware, and more vocal about the position of women academics. One



interesting, and maybe sociologically not unexpected outcome of all this was that I now began to be labelled as a feminist.

My experiences at ANU, then, have forced me to accept that a woman academic whether she wants it or not is considered as different, not quite part of the informal network of her male colleagues. I have accepted the labels and the treatment after much struggle and personal uncertainty. I am now willing to define myself as a feminist, where a year ago I was not. I am now also willing to accept that the position of women in academia gives me a special responsibility. Rather than negatively, and reluctantly allowing the label, I now aggressively and militantly welcome it.

I left ANU at the end of June. There is no longer a 'tenure-track' woman academic in the Sociology Department. Does this matter? Is there really such a special role for the woman sociologist that her male colleagues cannot take on for her?

In trying to answer this question I look before all at the present academic climate of an institution such as ANU. We have all been made aware during the last year of the dangers of intellectual stagnation produced by the retrenchments, the freezes, the job insecurity and lack of geographical mobility among academics. Where are the challenges to come from in an already extremely homogeneous environment such as ANU? Who is still willing to innovate, to provide the dialectic tensions, the challenges to entrenched paradigm?

It is my opinion that in this present situation, where people have become locked in their specializations, committed women academics are the main (and maybe the only) genuine challenge to academic complacency.

Let me give an example of such a challenge. Recently I read in an article in *Signs* (Joan Kelly-Gadol, 1976) p.811 the statement "there was no 'Renaissance' for women - at least not during the Renaissance". Possibly it could be said that this grandiose intellectual movement did not happen for working class males either, or for racial and ethnic minorities. In the USA in recent years blacks and Indians have begun to rewrite their history, rejecting conventional "majority" assessments of the American Revolution, and other events in American history. But in Australia, in the absence of such challenges

from other disadvantaged groups, the only attack on intellectual complacency seems to lie in the questions women academics raise.

So long as (male) social scientists believe they have provided an accurate description and theory of society by studying social mobility of *males*, male deviance, *male* trade union activities, so long as they believe they understand the process of education without acknowledging that most teachers are women and what that means, so long as they can study poverty without recognizing that most poor people are women, and why, so long as sociologists can speak about 'dormitory town' as if these towns were not occupied all day by women and children, will it remain necessary for women academics to challenge and reject such research and such theories. The presence of conscious and confident women academics thus provides the internal contradictions which academia needs in order to remain a community of adventurous, bold scholars, not fearful to explore new ideas, and willing to break out of their limiting frameworks of professional specialization.

There are, of course, other practical contributions women academics make. They provide a positive role model to their female students, encouraging them in their work, counselling them positively toward continuation of academic pursuits, even in those circumstances that have always been deemed natural excuses for women to quit: romantic attachments or pregnancy. Women academics, if tenured themselves, are also in a position to give support to other women in non-academic and non-tenured positions. But these contributions are not quite as essential to the ANU intellectual community as the reassessments women social scientists provide to traditional truths.

Cora V. Baldock

Dr Baldock will be undertaking the positions of Senior Lecturer in Social and Political Theory, and Co-ordinator of Women's Studies at Murdoch University in Perth. The editorial staff on behalf of the students at A.N.U. wish her better luck this time!

MEDIBANK AN AUTOPSY

Medibank's dead.

The present "Medibank" is nothing like the original Medibank of the Whitlam government. The original Medibank never meant to have things like cash payments centres, or government subsidies for private insurance.

On July 1, bulk-billing for medical services was abolished. Why was it abolished? It was a cheap and rational way for low-income earners to get health care. Unfortunately, bulk-billing involved doctors getting 85% of their fee in the form of a government cheque, rather than patients coughing up money. The Fraser government believes there is a moral virtue in people paying out of their own pockets, even though a computerised cheque-payment system is cheaper to the nation. Bulk-billing was sacrificed not on the altar of Efficiency, but that of Privilege.

The question is: if "Medibank" is no longer Medibank, what is it? How do we describe the present system of health care? The answer is: it's a National Disaster. If the original Medibank was Darwin, then the Fraser government's measures are Cyclone Tracy. Australia is still lumbered with the lousy level of health care that existed during the time of the voluntary health scheme from 1953 to 1975. And Medibank just lies in ruins.

But let's not mourn Medibank too much. Medibank was not a radical innovation — It was just a compulsory health insurance scheme. It never challenged the existing system. It never challenged our hospitals — where nurses and patients are exploited within a vicious hierarchy, and where physical health is restored at the expense of mental health. Medibank never challenged one of Australia's most socially irresponsible groups — doctors. (Most trade unions only disrupt our lives occasionally. Members of the AMA disrupt lives all the time.) Medibank never challenged whether doctors were promoting health, or promoting sickness. It never challenged pill-pumping GP's, or those extortionists known as "specialists".

Medibank never considered that "health insurance" might mean changing the present health services, rather than giving greater access to those services. It is claimed that other parts of the Whitlam health program aimed at changing health services, e.g. building community health centres. This is not

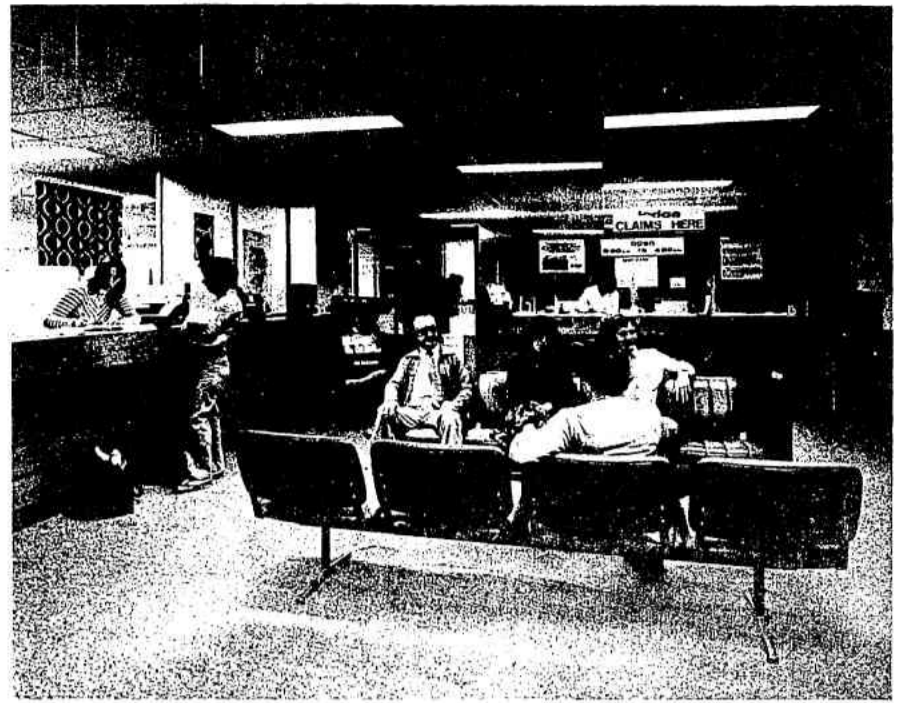
true. The Whitlam health program meant to ADD health services, not CHANGE health services. It aimed to create an adjunctive health system, not reform the established system. Community health centres were to be adjuncts to hospitals.

Medibank was basically gutless. It wanted to nationalize health insurance without nationalizing health services, which is a problem. How can you financially control health payments if you don't control the rate of health payments? To be successful politically, Medibank needed control over both the rate of health payments as well as the actual health payments. The rate of health payments means the rate at which doctors and hospitals are paid. Controlling the rate of health payments means putting doctors and hospitals on government regulated salaries and charges.

I am not advocating these measures. All I'm saying is that Medibank needed fundamental political change to succeed. Medibank's main job was to contain costs. It could not do this by just controlling health payments. It needed to control the rate of those payments. Medibank needed to challenge doctors if it was to succeed. Political compromising by the Whitlam government meant Medibank ended up trying to placate and persuade doctors.

The gutlessness of Medibank also comes from it being a welfare state measure. The welfare state is a system of government services paid out of taxes. It was dreamt up by social democrats in the 1940's as a way of giving people the essential services capitalism didn't give them, while at the same time not challenging capitalism. It was an adjunctive system to the dominant capitalist system. As long as people didn't mind paying taxes, the welfare state could provide basic services.

Well, people don't like paying taxes anymore. Why? Because they've paid massive taxes for schemes like Medibank, and seen no corresponding improvement in services. Hospital costs rose 150% between 1972 and 1975 (before Medibank was introduced), but the standard of health care hardly rose at all. Medibank gets blamed for this. Unfair? I don't think so. Medibank promised Australians a new deal in health services, when it was nothing of the sort. People still had to work in offices with lung-corrupting air-conditioning, or in factories with excess noise and dust.



A Medibank cash payment centre that should have never existed

To these people, Medibank said "Look, we can't stop you getting sick, but once you are sick, it will be easier for you to get treated by doctors, though we can't guarantee they'll do you any good." Rather like Truman giving Japan financial aid after Hiroshima.

It's been suggested Medibank was designed to redistribute income without challenging the existing system.

Two Adelaide political scientists, Bob Catley and Bruce McFarlane, suggested this in 1974. Catley and McFarlane claimed that the ALP in the mid 1960's moved into a plan of redistributing income without threatening the profit share of national income. Income redistribution would be achieved by redistributing within the labour share of national income.

In the area of health, this meant minimizing the cost of middle-class health treatment and spending what was saved on measures such as poverty welfare and pensions. The ALP was to aim at efficiency in health administration. The more efficient the health scheme was, the more for the poor and pensioned-off. In short, Equality Through Efficiency.

The plan behind Medibank was paradoxical: remove social inequalities by making more efficient the system which creates the social inequalities. If Medibank was to be efficient, it had to contain costs. Medibank could not contain health costs if there was not some governmental control over doctors. If the costs of medical care soared, overall costs could not be contained, efficiency would be lost, and income redistribution would stop.

That is exactly what happened. Doctor costs went through the roof. General expenditure on medical services in Australia went from \$388 million in 1972-3 to \$840 million for 1975-6. From January 1974 to January 1976, doctors' fees rose 59%, compared to a rise of 46% in the average male weekly wage. Cost Escalation 1, Medibank 0.

The ALP was in a bind. It wanted to preserve the profit share of national income. It also wanted to contain costs. This meant controls over doctors. But to control doctors in their fee increases would be to threaten that precious profit share of national income. Stalemate.

In the end, the ALP crossed its fingers and hoped that doctors would be nice and co-operate. Very, very naive. In 1973, the Australian Medical Association started saying things about the proposals for Medibank which were not very nice and co-operative at all. It said Medibank would lead to a "lessening of free choice . . . encouraging a uniform mediocrity". When Medi-

bank started in 1975-6, only 40% of doctors bulk-billed.

The fault with Medibank was that it was planned by technocrats. Labor picked up a plan by two technocrats from Melbourne University, R.B. Scotton and J.S. Deeble, in 1968. The Scotton-Deeble plan aimed at replacing the existing private health funds with a compulsory centralized public health fund. The compulsory health fund would be financed by a levy on taxable income.

The fault with technocratic plans is that they are *apolitical*. Scotton and Deeble themselves said "we are not concerned with ideological issues". All they wanted was the most efficient scheme around. The fact that any such scheme would challenge the entrenched system of private privilege in Australian health services didn't bother them. They thought they were above that.

They weren't. The Scotton-Deeble scheme that became Medibank was endangered by very political things. Political obstruction by the AMA and the non-Labor senators forced the commencement date for Medibank to move from July 1 1974 to July 1 1975. The vital element in Medibank — cost containment — fell apart when inflation doubled during the middle months of 1974. Scotton and Deeble didn't plan for a continuing recession.

The technocrats running Medibank assumed too much. They assumed doctors would co-operate. They assumed doctors would agree to payment by cheque via computer. Doctors didn't co-operate, and computer capacity for cheque payment went to waste. Cash payment centres had to be set up. Not originally intended by Scotton and Deeble, cash payment centres are relatively labour-intensive. Their introduction led to the Medibank staff ceiling rising by 1700 during 1975. Cost escalation 2, Medibank 0.

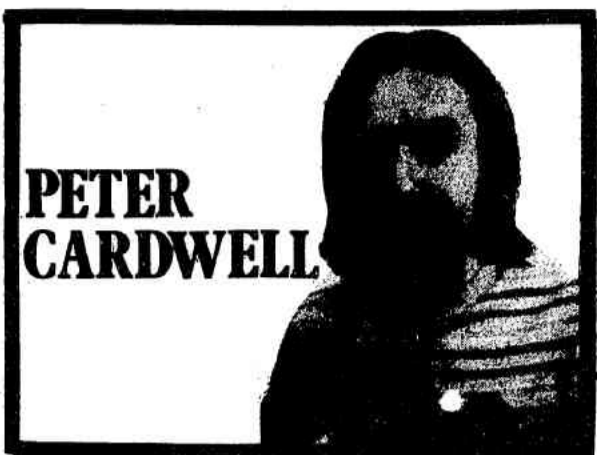
The total cost of Medibank was higher than expected, as total health costs increased in Australia by an average rate of 17% between 1972 and 1975. Its allocation in the 1975-6 federal Budget was \$1437 million. The Fraser government used this public burden as an excuse for setting up the Medibank Review Committee in January 1976. The Committee only considered cutting government expenditure on health. It did not consider cutting what caused the rise in government spending—the escalating health costs incurred by hospitals and doctors.

Medibank's dead. Let's learn from its mistakes, and be better prepared the next time around.

David Browne.

Bill Hayden,
Social Security
Minister
during planning
of Medibank.





PETER CARDWELL

Several areas have occupied the attention of the Students' Association since I last spoke to you. The first of these is the perennial *housing issue*. The University's Non Collegiate Housing Committee has already met on two occasions. After submissions from the Students' Association the University have finally agreed that the number of *houses and flats* set aside for students should be increased by 25% and that at least 60 houses should be available to students. They have also agreed that special rents should be charged for students. In addition, some of the figures used to justify the rent increases last year have been questioned by the Association and it seems that at the next meeting of the Committee, a decrease in the rents of between \$6 - \$9 can be justifiably argued for.

The *Halls and Colleges Liaison Committee* has already met: it has been decided that the group will consist of two Students' Association members and two members from each Hall and College. The functions of the Committee were discussed. The main function is to improve communication between the Association and the Halls. It is envisaged that delegates will bring up problems faced by individual residences and the Association can pursue action on these matters and also that they will be able to facilitate co-operation on cultural and social aspects of University life, for example, help to co-ordinate the Bush Week Activities.

The *Student Legal Referral Service* is now a reality after long hours of work by the Law Society. It will consist of both law students and staff and has already begun operation. The Association have sponsored a visit of the Co-ordinator of the Monash Legal Advisory Service to give some practical advice. The Association have also made a room available for the service to operate from. It operates between 12 noon and 2 pm and all students are welcome to use it for legal advice.

The second *Education Day* run by the Students' Association was even more of a success than the one previous to it. The speakers, including the regional organiser for AUS, raised a number of topics, The Market Day was well patronised and the Skyhooks concert that evening was a huge success. The Students' Association made over \$700 from the concert and this will go towards paying for all entertainment we subsidised in first term. A working group on ASSESSMENT ISSUES at the ANU met on June 8 and June 15 with nine students and nine staff on it. The group discussed assessment and specifically grading, examinations and student choice.

A recommendation which will be put to Departmental Committees and the Board of the School of General Studies was accepted:

"That students where practicable, be offered alternative forms of assessment, and that apart from exceptional cases approved by Faculty, no one form of assessment should be compulsory."

A further meeting for First Year students will be held in the next few weeks.

Another important matter which is just coming to a head is the University's proposal to build an *access road to the Molonglo Freeway* straight past the Co-operative Creche and the Cottage in Balmain Lane. The proposal is being opposed by the Parents-on-campus who operate the Creche the Cottage Collective and certain members of the Womens' House which operates a childrens' holiday program. In addition, the Students' Association at its second general meeting on 22 March overwhelmingly endorsed a motion condemning "in the strongest possible terms suggestions by the University administration to build an access road to the Molonglo Freeway ... past ... those particular sensitive community services". The opposition of all these groups to the Balmain Lane upgrading should be regarded seriously. At the recent meeting of Standing Committee of Council we made representations on behalf of all the groups concerned. The arguments we raised included the facts that:

1. the proposal would constitute a serious hazard to the safety of the children at the Creche and the childrens' holiday program, particularly at the morning and afternoon peak periods when most children are arriving and leaving.
2. the proposal would also adversely affect people staying at the drop-in centre at the Cottage.
3. If implemented the proposal would also raise the problem of high volumes of traffic travelling at relatively high speeds along the Lane, with the added effects of noise and atmospheric pollution.
4. If implemented the proposal would also lead to the destruction of a very aesthetic area of the campus, Balmain Lane is one of the most pleasant areas on campus with some of the oldest houses and trees in Canberra.

In the light of these and other objections we saw it important that all the alternatives be thoroughly investigated, including the Liversidge Street alternative. As a result of our representations the proposal has now been shelved indefinitely.

I am also happy to announce that after a lot of planning the Students' Association in close co-operation with the Union Board of Management have organised to hold the *3rd National Cannabis Research Foundation Conference* in the Union on 17 & 18 August. The conference promises to be very worthwhile, with some very notable speakers including Professor Sackville head of the SA Royal Commission.

At the last meeting of the ANU Students' Association held on June 7 the main subject of debate was the Government's decision to introduce legislation to amend the ANU Act making membership of student organisations voluntary. The meeting expressed total opposition to the Government's decision, and a motion reaffirming our position on compulsory membership of student organisations was passed by 152 votes to 26. The Meeting also passed a motion to hold a Rally on Budget Day August 15, which all students should support because without funds the Association will not be able to survive.

SPORTS RECREATION CENTRE

Facilities and Activities available from the S.R.C.:-

- Badminton
- Basketball
- Netball
- Tennis
- Squash
- Weight/Training Rooms
- Volleyball
- Archery
- Change Room/Showers
- Soccer
- European Handball
- Hockey
- Gymnastics
- Climbing Wall
- Sporting gds shop
- Table Tennis
- Circuit Training

Hours of Opening:

Squash Courts - Telephone 492273
 Monday-Thurs, 9am-11.30pm
 Friday 9 am - 8.30 pm
 Saturday 9 am - 6 pm
 Sunday 9 am - 11.30pm

Meters may be used between 6.45am and 9 am Monday to Friday at a reduced rate. To book a squash court ring or call in person at the Booking Desk in the foyer of the Sports Recreation Hall. Facilities may only be used by Sports Union members but visitors are permitted to play with a member with these charges based on local commercial rates.

Sports Recreation Hall -

Telephone 492860
 Monday-Friday 8 am-10pm
 Saturday 9am - 6 pm
 Sunday 10 am - 10 pm

Hours are subject to change depending on demand.

Weight Training Rooms - these rooms are open during all normal operating hours of the Sports Recreation Hall.

Bookings for Sports Recreation Hall All bookings for use of the Hall for activities such as badminton, tennis, volleyball etc, will be taken one week in advance, keeping in mind that these activities will be timetabled around the permanent programmes continuing throughout each semester.

All enquiries and bookings telephone 492860 or come to Sports and Physical Recreation Officers' Office in the Sports Recreation Hall.

There will be no charge on those persons, who are members of the Sports Union, for use of the Hall during the day within the set times for 'General Use'. A booking sheet will be posted on the notice-board within the S.R.C. each Monday for the forthcoming week.

Sports and Physical Recreation Officer: Sports Recreation Hall - Telephone 492860

Any assistance or advice regarding recreation programmes available from the Sports and Physical Recreation Officer. The position involves the promotion and organization of fitness, intramural and recreation activities.

SPORT AND PHYSICAL RECREATION PROGRAMME -

Fitness Testing: For those people who feel out of shape and really want to do

something about it you should come along and have a fitness test. The test is very comprehensive and gives you an overall picture of your level of fitness. From the results a fitness programme can be made to suit your individual needs. The tests are free and are carried out by trained personnel at the Sports Recreation Hall. All enquiries ring 492860.

Keep Fit Classes: simple, varied, continuous and rhythmic exercises designed to improve muscle tone and flexibility, performed in a pressure free environment every Monday and Wednesday between 5pm and 6pm and Fridays between 8am-9am. There are no charges for these classes and if you feel like you would like to become fit or fitter please come along. All enquiries telephone 492860.

Jogging Group: A group of joggers will have the Sports Recreation Hall every Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8 am for a short, enjoyable run within the ANU grounds. Why not come along?

INSTRUCTIONAL CLASSES:

During Second Semester the following activities are available for all Sports Union members, and are offered either free of charge or with a minimal charge to cover costs of payments to instructors. For details please telephone 492860 or come and see the Sports & Physical Recreation Officer in the Sports Recreation Hall.

- Jazz Ballet Yoga
- Archery Square Dancing
- Tennis Weightlifting
- Advanced Gymnastics
- Beginners Gymnastics
- Mountaineering Instruction
- Fitness Programme Guidance.

INTRAMURAL COMPETITIONS

These are intended to be free, friendly games between student and/or staff peer groups to allow those interested in participating in recreational games to do so without the need for club affiliation.

Second Semester activities include the following activities:

Activity	When	Starts	No. per Team
Basketball	Mon&Fri 12.30-2pm	3/8	5
Volleyball	Tues.&Thur. 12.30-2pm	4/8	6
Badminton	Friday 12.30-2pm	7/8	2
Table Tennis	Mon,Wed, Fri 12.30-2pm	3/8	2

If you are interested and you can find others who might want to play (you'll need six at the most) come along to the Sports Union Office or the Sports and Physical Recreation Officer's Office and pick up an entry form. There will be no charge on those playing in the games and we hope to see them last throughout Second Semester.

SALON CRYPTIQUE

returns this Friday (July 21) at 8-00pm in the UNION BOARD ROOM.

Attractions include :- "THE JOY OF ACCOUNTING" & "KINGSTON RAILWAY STATION" + Miscellaneous Rantings.

SPECIAL FEATURE!

BUNUEL & DALI'S SURREALIST CLASSIC "UN CHIEN ANDALOU" (1928)

DOPE

THE AVERAGE MARIJUANA SMOKER

Mr Malcolm C. Hall, a research officer at the Australian Crime Intelligence Centre of the Commonwealth Police, has drawn a portrait of the average marijuana smoker.

The average smoker (drug offender) apparently is:

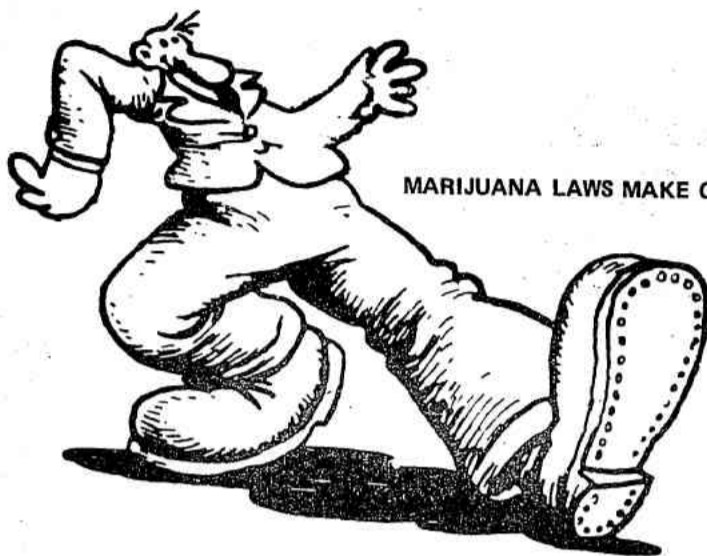
- 1 - male
- 2 - 19 to 22 years of age
- 3 - employed in an unskilled or semi-skilled job
- 4 - lives in a large city
- 5 - has several friends involved in drugs.

The above is a vague portrait but it's not the main flaw in the article. Mr Hall wrote:

The main fault of the article is the indiscriminate linkage of marijuana with heroin - a sneaky device utilized to put further smudges on the reputation of marijuana.

Here are a couple of quotes to illustrate what I'm talking about.

"He uses mainly cannabis but it is increasingly likely that he could get heroin if he wanted it."



MARIJUANA LAWS MAKE CRIMINALS.

"Many people grew out of the drug scene and some died of overdoses."

For an article titled "Your Average Pot-head", this inclusion of 'hard' drugs is totally uncalled for. It is, however, something that has been fed to the public many times.

Marijuana action groups are trying

to abolish this link for there is no sound reason why it should be in existence. Apart from this, it is severely hurting or restricting campaigns to get marijuana out of the class of illegal drugs. Marijuana will not be accepted until it is not linked with drugs like heroin.

The last paragraph of the article is quite good. It concerns the age of the average smoker:

SMOKER

"The high proportion of young people could be explained by the fact that police forces concentrated on young groups."

This sort of attitude could explain a number of trends: the lower number of women smokers, the lower number of smokers employed in public servant type jobs who have a conservative appearance and so on and so on.

Again, I must say, watch out for articles of this nature. Don't take them at face value; treat them as though they've been designed to suck you, and the rest of the public, into believing marijuana is illegal because it is in the same class as heroin. It really there is no sound reason why marijuana users should be made into criminals if they are caught. Marijuana should not be illegal.



OPPOSE ANTI-STUDENT LEGISLATION.

Rally Tuesday,
August 15.

ANU Union
Court 12:30pm.

SOLOMONS GO FREE

On Friday 7 July 1978, the Solomon Islands officially gained independence from Britain. This island nation, with a population of some 200,000 people, lies to the east of the mainland area of Papua New Guinea.

The independence celebrations which I attended were thoroughly enjoyable. Yet those same celebrations were criticized by some self-righteous academics and journalists whom I met, who viewed them cynically as un-Melanesian and British in character. I, however, heard no Melanesian criticizing the celebrations — even the British style horse racing and “beauty queen” contests. All the Solomon Islanders I met, were thoroughly entertained — they viewed with pride their British cultural heritage along with their strong Melanesian and to a lesser extent their Polynesian cultural heritage. (Here I am putting words into their mouths to justify what I see as their feelings). What is clear, is that the majority of the Solomon Islanders have an integrative approach to cultures, just as with politics. Unlike European commentators, they do not split hairs, they mend them. However, it must be borne in mind that in the extremely diverse setting of the Solomon Islands, where peoples and their cultures differ dynamically between different areas and islands, that to every rule there must always be exceptions.

At the time of independence itself, there were rumblings of discontent. It could be seen subtly in a silent protest which was staged by a group of “Moro” men from Western Gaudalcanal on the opening day of the independence. These people could best be described as “savage” looking men. They are strong “custom” men wanting their own independence and their own traditional identity preserved.

More interesting was a potentially serious situation which arose on the island of Vella Lorella in the Western Solomons. This island group has had in recent years, strong feelings about separation. Apparently the discontent climaxed on Friday 7 July — Independence Day, when the people of Vella Lorella boycotted the official Independence ceremonies. The central government must have felt threatened, because they felt it serious enough to warrant riot troops being flown in. One must be sceptical of the importance which can be attributed to such movements because in Melanesia so-called problems can somehow miraculously dissipate, just as they can rise without rational explanation. It would not surprise me, if the Western Solomon Islands’ secessionist movement were to disappear as easily as it appeared. According to a reliable informant the “movement” was launched after the publication of a poem written by some Malaitans criticizing the supposed laziness of the people of the Western Solomons.

The road to unity, and national oneness will be difficult — if not nigh impossible and unrealistic. It is the stated principle of government that a provincial government system will eventually be set up. A compromise situation on this matter will be necessary. A too strong provincial government system is believed to create new separate identities, thus being counter productive. Its opposite — a strong centrally controlled government can either do the same thing

i.e. promote discontent and ultimate disunity, in outlying areas, or else quell individual regional identities into passivity.

The bulwark to a balanced and easy transfer of powers (administrative mainly) to the provinces will presumably lie with the Malaitans who of any particular islanders, have the greatest power in government. The P.M. for instance is a Malaitan. Although within Malaita itself there is a diversity of cultures and languages, Outside Malaita, in the capital, Honiara, Gaudalcanal, there is a very strong regional identity. I found this out, all to my horror, when during the celebrations prior to official independence I spent some time speaking to a group of Malaitan girls. I was for a while disturbed in a petty way, by a group of Malaitans. But later on while walking along a road I was converged upon by a group of Malaitan men — luckily just in time I was taken by the arm and led away by a Fijian educated man from Gaudalcanal. He explained to me, that I came close to getting my head bashed in. A girl I was speaking to was spoken for apparently and her relatives were revengeful.

On the actual day of independence, Friday 7th July 1978, I felt it wise to avoid Honiara. Especially after my particular confrontation with Malaitan customs, I feared the possibility of inter-island conflict and violence. Happily, I accepted an invitation to attend, and join in the festivities following the raising of the Solomon Islands’ flag.

From midday on Friday 7th to 3am the next morning, the festivities continued uninterrupted. I gained the distinct feeling that people were at last ‘set free’ — they had at last broken free of many of the psychological bonds which had separated them from me . . . I felt honoured and satisfied too, because now I was at my ease as their equal brother. I also gained the impression that they were strongly motivated politically in a way that really mattered, not only in economic and political fields (as is the British tradition) did they have the ideal to be totally democratic, but also in the social context.



With the changing of the flag, the younger generation came to stand equal with former white masters and older peers alike. I could not help but feel sorry for the older generation. It was not *their* day, nor was it *their* era which was dawning.

I suppose while I was enjoying the festivities and contributing to them in my own modest way, Australia’s top official representative, Andrew Peacock, was likely to have been boozing with other official dignitaries — no doubt of the European stock.

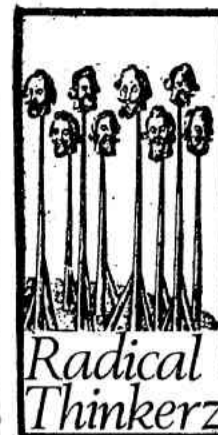
I wonder where the Solomon Islands are put on the Australian Government’s list of priorities. Very, very low, I would suspect. In comparison to the Americans, Japanese, New Zealanders, not to mention the British, the Australians adopted a surprisingly low profile with regard to Solomon Islands’ independence. There was deep concern that Andrew Peacock only felt it necessary to arrive just in time for the official proclamation at 9.30am on Friday 7th. It would have enhanced Australia’s image immeasurably, if Peacock could have been present at official celebrations prior to Independence Day.

Although there has been much publicity as to the gifts which were given by the Australian Government, and the increase in aid which will be forthcoming — the ignorance and contempt which was shown by the government as to the importance symbolically of Solomon Islands’ independence, was nothing short of arrogant.

Greg Hutchinson.



Next Issue:
New Hebrides.



For Paulo Freire the fundamental theme of our epoch is ‘that of domination — which implies its opposite, the theme of liberation as the objective to be achieved’. He postulates, in striking and forceful terms, the dialectical contradiction that exists between opposing social forces — those of oppressor and oppressed. His concern is in overcoming this conflict and achieving the liberation of both. The pedagogy of the oppressed is, as Freire proclaims, a task for radicals.

The oppressed come to be fearful of freedom by internalizing the oppressor’s image, rather than ejecting and replacing it with autonomy and responsibility. The oppressed must perceive that they are not in a closed world from which there is no exit, but in a limiting situation which they can transform. But attempting to liberate the oppressed without their reflective participation in the act of liberation is merely to treat them as objects for manipulation.

The principal educational means by which oppression is perpetuated can be found in the narrative character of the teacher-student relationship. Where the teacher is narrator then the students become mere containers, or receptacles to be filled. Freire adds that ‘the teacher issues communiques and makes deposits which the students patiently receive, memorize and repeat. This is the “banking” concept of education’.

Freire strongly asserts that those who are truly committed to liberation must reject the banking concept in its entirety. The educational goal of deposit-making must be replaced ‘with the posing of problems of men in their relations with the world’.

Freire constantly demonstrates the radical contrast between education as domination, and education as the practice of freedom. The former attempts, by mythicizing reality, to conceal facts which explain the way men exist in the world; the latter has the task of demythologizing; the former treats students as objects of assistance; the latter makes them critical thinkers; the latter fails to acknowledge man as an historical being; while the latter takes man’s historicity as its starting-point.

A transformation from oppression to liberation, Freire urges, must be in dialogue with the people. It is based on a concept of man as a knowing subject, striving to develop an ever-deepening awareness of the socio-cultural and historical reality that shapes his life. He suggests that from this awareness there develops a capacity to know and transform that reality, culminating in a commitment to its transformation. It is this process which Freire calls ‘conscientization’ or the emergence of critical consciousness. This is the chief enterprise of cultural action for freedom.

Critical consciousness is brought about by the union of action and reflection. Action without reflection becomes uncritical activism, while reflection without action is mere verbalism. Neither is a case of genuine revolutionary praxis.

Australia, like all capitalist societies, has its oppressed both visible and invisible. Australia’s culture may not be wholly silent in Freire’s sense, but there are many sectors whose voice is thoroughly prescribed. One thinks immediately of blacks, ethnic groups, women, students at all levels, and the poor. There is also the ‘political timidity, cultural gentility and moral hypocrisy’ of the submerged consciousness of Australia’s middle class.

Radical economic plan urg

Radical economics? From the Federal Shadow Treasurer, Ralph Willis? Below is an abridged version of the speech Willis gave to the National Conference of Labor Economists in Brisbane recently. In the speech, Willis called for a 'primary redistribution of wealth' in Australia, rather than a secondary redistribution through taxes. The primary redistribution involves nationalization of key sectors, and the setting-up of employees' investments trusts and workers' co-operatives. Willis believes the soft socialism favoured by Whitlam must be replaced by hard-line redistribution.

It is instructive to reflect on the economic policy propounded by the Labor Party as it strove for office in 1972. Basically it amounted to what we would now term 'sound economic management'. We argued that by means of various interventionist measures in respect of such matters as interest rates, prices, tariffs and foreign investment, and by gradually developing a degree of economic planning, we would ensure strong economic growth and thereby be able to finance a very well-developed program of social reform.

That program was founded largely on the concept of equality of opportunity — we argued that people of all income levels should have the right to decent education, proper health care, efficient transport, adequate recreation facilities, and a non-polluted environment, and that the only way that such rights could be guaranteed was for the State to play a much greater role in their provision than hitherto.

Indeed it was Whitlam's hallmark as Opposition Leader that he exposed the glaring deficiencies of our social infrastructure, supervised the development of policies to overcome these deficiencies and awakened the consciousness of the electorate to the need for those policies. In so doing he made schools and pre-schools, hospitals and health insurance, urban transport and sewers, parks and homes the centre of the political debate at that time.

To what extent victory in '72 was due to his emphasis on these issues, rather than to other factors such as the growth of unemployment in 1971-72, the 'time for a change' feeling, or the bumbling ineptitude of Billy McMahon is an open question, but there can be no doubt that Labor's program was a program of significant social change which separated us clearly from the Conservatives and generated considerable enthusiasm amongst Labor activists and supporters.

It was our enormous misfortune to gain office just as the world economy was beginning to go haywire. The economic forces with which the Labor Government had to contend was well described by the then Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, Dr Witteveen in New York, earlier this year. He said:

"You will recall that, just a few years ago, the world economy was struck by a series of major disturbances; a virulent and widespread inflation, a severe and prolonged recession, and a massive disequilibrium in international payments. Unquestionably, the situation that developed during the period 1973-5 constituted the most serious and complex set of economic problems to confront national governments and the international community since the end of World War II".

Nevertheless, there is no doubt that we were publicly perceived as failures at economic management and in my view that cost us not only the 1975 election but the 1977 election

as well. Despite the fact that unemployment had worsened considerably under Fraser it was all too easy for him to remind the electorate that it became a problem under Labor and to claim that it was taking time to get the economy back in shape after the mess Labor made of it.

Thus, from this brief consideration of the Whitlam years in office and their aftermath two points of relevance emerge.

Firstly, from a situation in which, as recently as 1972, the issue of economic management was basically a side issue to the political debate, it has now most definitely come onto centre stage. Governments are being made and broken by the public perception of their capacity to manage the economy satisfactorily. There can be no doubt that at the next election, Labor's economic policy, and the electorate's assessment of it, will be a key determinant of our chances of winning government.

Secondly, should we succeed in achieving government at that time, it will be absolutely crucial for us that we are able to improve on the Fraser Government's economic performance. You may well take the view that that shouldn't be too difficult, but if, having given us a second chance, the electorate should judge that we've muffed it again, then I believe it would take many years before it would give us another chance.

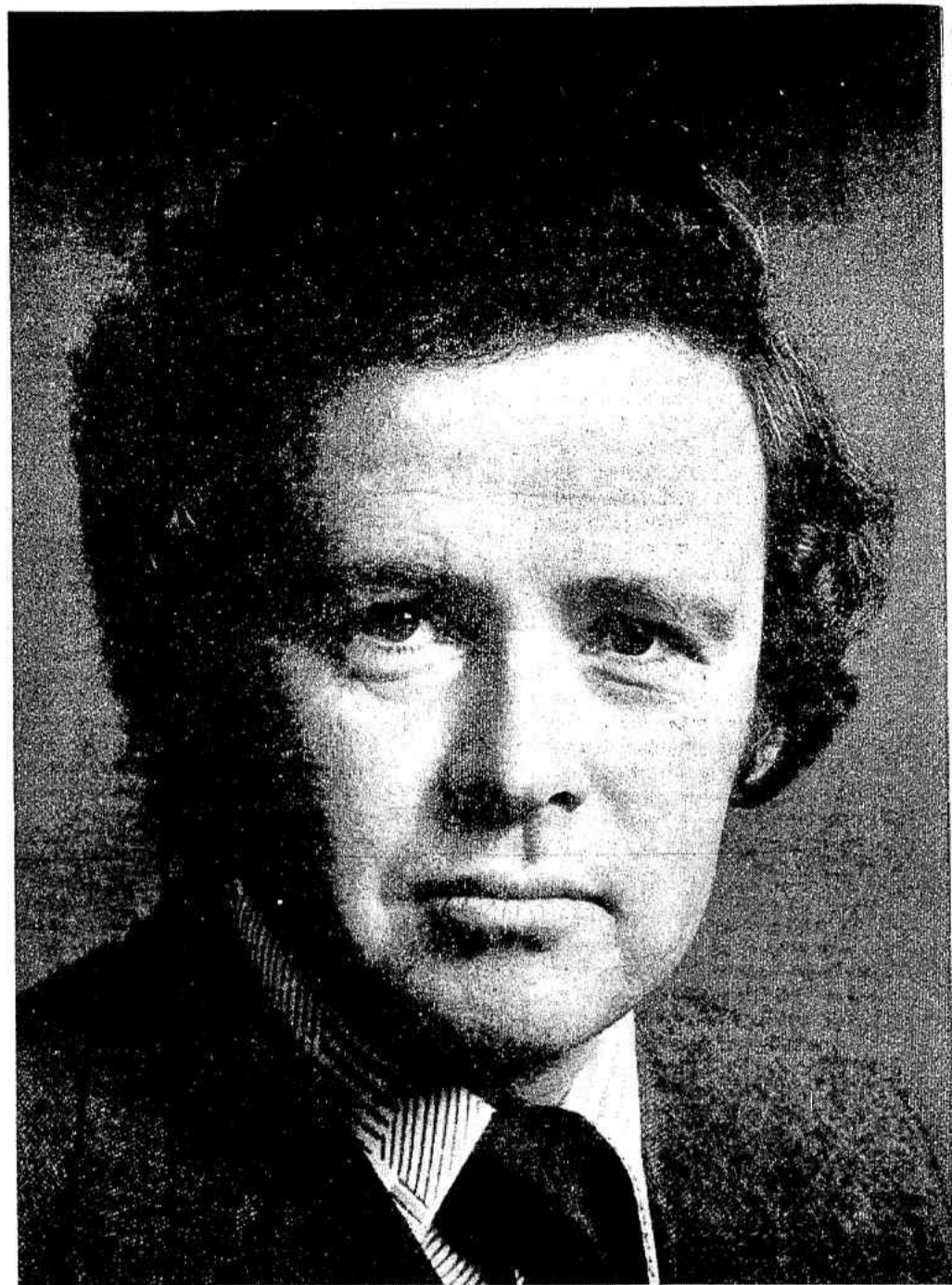
Let me turn now to a consideration of what Labor's approach should be.

The changes now being wrought in the Australian economy by the Fraser Government are quite profound. They represent much more than an attempt to undo the reforms of the Whitlam era — they are the policies of a Government that is unashamedly attempting to restore the status quo for many years ago!

There is a now concerted attack on the public sector which is claimed by the Government to be an economic necessity but in fact has its genesis much more in ideological factors. Although the Liberal-Country Parties have always maintained a belief that the optimum form of society was one in which the populace provided for their own needs by purchasing them in the market place, thus determining their own priorities and supposedly maximising individual satisfaction, they nevertheless presided, in government, over a gradual, but more or less continual expansion in the size of the public sector and the proportion of income paid in taxation.

Despite high unemployment and substantial unused productive capacity in private industry, Fraser argues that a reduction in the level of public expenditure is necessary to allow private industry room to grow.

Though the deficit has blown out because of a shortfall in tax revenue that is in turn the result of increased recession caused by reductions in government expenditure, Fraser argues that government expenditure must



Ralph Willis, Federal Shadow Treasurer

now be further reduced — thereby intensifying the deflationary, high deficit circle.

Another and closely related policy by which Fraser is attempting to turn back the clock is his so-called 'new federalism'. The essence of this reform in federal-state financial relations is to greatly reduce the Federal Government's involvement in public programs by giving the States the power to levy a surcharge on federal personal income tax and at the same time, slashing federal expenditure on programs which are administered through the States, e.g. schools, hospitals, urban public transport, welfare housing. The States are then put in the position of raising funds through their own resources (State taxes, or the income tax surcharge) or simply letting the programs run down.

Under his so-called new federalism, over 40% of the cost to revenue of an income tax cut is automatically covered by reduced allocations to State and Local Governments, and he can cover a much higher proportion of the tax cut by letting specific purpose grants and capital grants to the States as well.

The Fraser Government is also attempting to change the economic environment in respect of the importance that attaches to full employment. Its careful cultivation of the dole-bludger syndrome has undoubtedly raised the politically sustainable unemployment level.

The maintenance of a high level of unemployment is an important means of achieving another change in the economic environment — the redistribution of factor income from wages to profits. This is claimed by the Government to be essential because the real wage explosion of 1974 redistributed factor income considerably to wage earners, thus reducing profits share, which reduction, it is claimed, is still a major inhibition to investment and economic recovery.

The government's oft-stated aim is to restore profits share of Non-Farm Gross Product to its average level for the five years 1968-9 to 1972-3 which was 17.9%. The National Accounts for the March Quarter 1978 show profits share at 15.6%, so a further fall in real wages is still held to be necessary.

What this argument ignores is that profits share always falls in a recession as fixed costs are allocated over reduced output levels, so raising unit costs and squeezing profits.

The impact on the economy of Fraserism is therefore storing up deep problems for a future Labor Government, but there are also more fundamental forces at work which will immensely complicate economic policy making.

The rapid development of new technology based on integrated circuits is already ushering in an era or unprecedented automation of production processes. The developing uses and falling costs of comput-

erged

ers have greatly increased their applicability to industry and now that mini and micro-computers are available, computerisation will be capable of application to quite small-scale operations. The consequent rapid onset of automation of production appears certain to have a devastating impact on employment in our factories, warehouses, shops, offices, banks and telephone exchanges.

How then will we be able to provide full employment?

Such concern is given further impetus by the ever-growing challenge to our manufacturing industry from the rapidly expanding developing of manufacturing capacity in South East Asia. As that challenge becomes increasingly intensified through the extension and increased sophistication of Asian industry our highly protected manufacturing industry will have to either become even more highly protected, or be restructured on more efficient and specialised lines, or just wither away.

The determination of our response to that challenge will be one of the most important decisions made by the Australian Government between now and the end of the century, for whatever our response, it will have enormous implications for our level of employment, economic growth and living standards.

A further implication for economic policy-making with which a future Labor Government will be confronted arises from the increasing perception of the disadvantages of economic growth. Such disadvantages include the impending exhaustion of vital resources, environmental deterioration and growing social disorders which are increasingly perceived as being growth related. Economic growth is absolutely fundamental to the capitalist ethic, so if growth is to be de-emphasised then, in the longer term, the capitalist system is likely to be increasingly called into question.

From this brief analysis of factors bearing on the economic environment in which the Labor Party will be seeking and hopefully exercising the power of government in the 1980's, it can be seen that economic policy formulation poses infinitely more difficulties than was envisaged by the Party as it sought office in the 50's, 60's and early 70's. Thus the rather false, vaguely formulated, fine tuning approach which marked the Party's economic policy in those years can now be seen to be so grossly inadequate that we can dismiss it completely as a possible option for an approach to economic policy in the ensuing years.

There seem to be four possible approaches in the current circumstances, all of which I would expect to find some support amongst party members and supporters.

One possible approach is to take the view that the economic difficulties facing government are so horrendous that we should forsake all attempts at reform, and concentrate our efforts exclusively on sound economic management of the system as we find it — for the time being at least.

Assuming we were successful in this, then there would be undoubted advantages for the people we seek to represent in the form of full employment, low inflation and rising living standards. To the extent that we did not achieve these aims it could still be argued that our achievements would be better than would have been the case if we had been simultaneously suffering the distraction of attempting to bring about various reforms.

Alternatively however it is possible to argue that without reform and

change in the existing economic structure it will be more difficult or even impossible to achieve sound economic management.

Thus Stuart Holland argues strongly that the commanding heights of the economy, the major companies, should be nationalised so as to improve the performance of the British economy.

At a less apocalyptic level, a very convincing case can be made for implementing a vigorous program of development of the social infrastructure and community services not only for their own intrinsic worth but also because of the need to considerably expand the public sector if we are to re-establish full employment. In this connection I can offer no better authority than the Department of Employment and Industrial Relations which recently reached that conclusion in a paper submitted to the Crawford Study Group on Structural Adjustment.

Having considered employment trends over the past ¼-century and examined the likely workforce expansion in the near future, the Department reached the extraordinarily important conclusion that even if we were able to generate an additional 130,000 jobs for each of the next 5 years, we would still have an unemployment rate of 4.5%!

It then considered the prospects of generating additional jobs in the various industry groups and having done so, reached this conclusion:

"It is noticeable that the sectors which seem likely to be the main providers of additional jobs in the future are those which to some extent, depend on direct public expenditure. Therefore, it seems likely that one of the main challenges in managing the economy to produce reasonable full employment in future years will involve some redistribution of income from the sectors already contributing to the nation's wealth to those which more readily employ people. With major service areas like retail trade likely to contribute less to employment growth, the public sector may increasingly be required to generate jobs either in the public sector or in the private sector via public expenditure."

I need hardly stress the enormous significance of the fact that the Government Department responsible for employment reached such a conclusion, which completely contradicts the Government's current economic policy. It also demonstrates that concentrating solely on sound economic management and eschewing any reform of the current structure of our economy is not a viable policy approach.

This leaves three other alternatives.

One is to pursue Whitlam-type reforms which will achieve social redistributive aims through an improved social infrastructure and social security arrangements, and by redistributive taxes. We may refer to this as the Secondary Redistributive Approach.

Alternatively, rather than simply seeking to redistribute income after it is earned, we can seek to change the original distribution of income by redistributing economic power and wealth. This we may term the Primary Redistributive Approach.

Another alternative is to seek the complete overthrow of the capitalist system, rather than its transformation, but this I do not treat as a serious option for the Labor Party at a time when even the Communist Parties of Western Europe are rejecting such an approach.

Secondary redistribution has always seemed the safest option for the Party — the option that could achieve significant reform yet avoid constitutional and electoral problems that seemed likely to accompany a primary redistributive approach — as Chifley found when he tried to nationalise the Banks.

However it is no longer so clear that secondary redistribution is a soft option either. There is undoubtedly a world trend of resistance by taxpayers to increases in the tax burden.

This is especially true of the upper middle class whose incomes are high enough to attract substantial tax but not quite enough to enable them to afford the most effective, and therefore the most expensive tax avoidance schemes!

An early indication of this trend came in Denmark where in 1973, the Progress Party whose policy is to abolish income tax, the civil service, the foreign service and the defence forces, won 16% of the vote and 28 seats in the Parliament — making it the second largest party in the Danish parliament.

Its defence policy was particularly innovative — it proposed the establishment of a hot-line to Moscow, so that if the Russians invaded Denmark, the Danish Prime Minister could pick up the phone and say 'We surrender!'

Two elections later this Party still has 26 seats in Parliament and is still the second largest Party.

More recently in the United States and especially in California, there have been strong moves to cut property taxes — and indeed the Californians voted overwhelmingly to cut them by 70% with consequent drastic cuts in local government expenditures to follow.

But then, this is not new to us in Australia. Our Government has been well and truly onto this path for a couple of years already and that, as I stressed earlier, poses considerable problems for a Labor Party seeking to revitalise public expenditure for redistributive and employment reasons.

The solution to that problem can only lie in public education and an honest approach. We must tackle the conservative's ideology head-on and educate wage and salary earners, and their union leaders, not to be dazzled and deluded by tax cuts which will only result in a lower quality of government services, or in them having to pay in the market place for services that were previously provided by the government — in which case, those with the least purchasing power get the lowest quality service.

We are going to have to set out and defend the public sector and encourage people to support it not because it represents something they won't have to pay for — but rather because it's worth paying taxes to have it. Of course, such a policy can and should, be made more palatable by proposals to pay for at least part of the increase in public expenditure by redistributive taxes such as a resource rent tax, and taxes on private capital such as a tax on wealth, capital gains and capital transfers.

But then, with such redistributive mechanisms available, should we seek to enter the even more troubled waters of primary redistribution!

I believe we should, partly for reasons of practicality and partly for more metaphysical reasons. One reason is that I share Hugh Stretton's concern that redistributive taxes may not be very successful because of tax avoidance.

Certainly the evidence to date is that despite a quite progressive personal income tax system the after-tax distribution of income is much the same as the pre-tax distribution. Similarly despite taxes on wealthy estates and gifts, the distribution of wealth remains highly unequal.

Perhaps more intensive concentration on tax avoidance could make a difference but with the High Court continually interpreting tax laws in favour of tax avoiders one must be pessimistic about the success of such an approach.

Another reason for primary redistribution is that it is more permanent. Governments come and go, and so may redistributive taxes and expenditures — but a fairer primary share of wealth is much more difficult for a conservative government to eradicate.

There is also the very important point that what we should be concerned to redistribute is not just income and wealth, but power. A true democracy must surely be one in which economic power is widely diffused and that can be achieved by promoting a more egalitarian ownership of industry, and enabling workers to have a significant say in the decision making within their enterprise.

Thus the Swedish Labor Movement has been foremost in the development of the concept of industrial democracy, by which managerial decision-making prerogatives are being increasingly removed, and in the concept of economic democracy, by which they hope to achieve a much more egalitarian distribution of wealth and economic power.

In this respect they are developing the notion of employee investment trusts to which Swedish companies would be obliged to distribute shares each year, depending on their profitability, thus enabling all employees to accumulate wealth through their holdings in these Trusts. The trusts would eventually become major shareholders in all industries — and perhaps eventually have a majority shareholding in all companies.

Such innovative ideas should I believe be carefully considered by the Australian Labor Movement, along with other means of redistributing economic power. For far too long we have avoided serious consideration of such policies. If we really wish to see Australia become a democratic socialist state we must start now to develop the primary redistributive policies without which its achievement will not be possible.



Column Space From The Pseud Pols



Last time we warned that pseudo-politics was a dangerous hobby. Unfortunately our warning was too late for some in our pseudcon ranks, and the P.R./P.C. S.A. is now under direct threat. This time the wolf really is coming.

Non-compulsory student unionism has general disadvantages which do not concern us here. It is enough to say that being parasitic, the P.R./P.C. S.A. cannot afford to destroy its host, serious politics of genuine concern. Where else do we get the legitimacy that makes pseudopolitics so worthwhile? Where else would we get our money? A background of genuine politics gives us our only opportunity to perform.

Glumness in our pseudcon ranks lead to this legislation which threatens us as well as real student opportunities. Pseudcons allowed their rhetoric and well-played indignation to be heard in the wrong places: places where its pseudpol spirit was misunderstood.

Overenthusiasm is probably their explanation, though it is no real excuse. The first lesson of any pseudopolician is to keep silent when involvement in real action is threatened. This elementary rule was forgotten by experienced pseudcons, and they have damaged our activities immeasurably.

Fortunately there are a few small benefits in the disaster. It will provide many opportunities to make our presence felt, and our rhetoric has already been burnished. The issue is also perfect to promote the confusion between pseudo and genuine politics. In the minds of our audience, our fuss may overshadow the real dangers.

But damage far exceeds the benefit in these few opportunities. We must ask again, what prompted the pseudcon branch to make such a crass mistake? It is obviously impossible that they momentarily believed their own rhetoric of free choice: they are too close to parental support for that. One suspects they were pursuing private pseudo-political ends, and must be censured accordingly.

In the end though, they themselves are probably most affected of all. They may lose their part of the major requirement of all pseudo-politics: they will have nothing to complain about. And how will they wear their three-piece suits, if not defiantly to meetings? At least pseudrad jeans are far more versatile.

ALP BACKS AUS



Senator Carrick

The Australian Labor Party at its 1977 Perth Federal Conference passed the following motion in regard to student unions:

"That the Labor Party upholds the right of students to autonomous control of their student organisations and believes that students have the democratic right of decision-making within their unions and federated bodies with regard to revenue raising, administration and policy."

The March State Conference of the Victorian Branch of the Party passed the following motion:

"That this State Conference notes with concern the intended State Government legislation on student unionism. Further, we express our full support for compulsory student unionism, and regard any outside interference such as the Liberal Party, National Civic Council/DLP and other elements, as an attack upon the students' rights to conduct their own affairs. Therefore, Conference calls upon the Victorian State Branch to implement Federal Policy and oppose any attempt to interfere in student affairs."

The Annual Branch Conference of the A.C.T. Branch of the Party passed the following motion:

"That this Conference condemns the actions of the Minister for Education in proposing to interfere in the autonomy of the Council of the Australian National University by making changes to the ANU Act to outlaw compulsory membership of the student organisations."

CALPS SUPPORTS COMPULSORY STUDENT UNIONISM

At its 1978 Annual Conference, held 15-18 May (before the Carrick moves in respect to ANU and CCAE) the National Council of Australian Labor Party Students (CALPS) adopted the following as policy on "Student Unions":

"CALPS recognises the right of students to organise politically and to form autonomous democratic student unions.

CALPS believes that as student unions exist for the benefit of all students, that financial membership of student unions should be compulsory excepting bona fide and extreme conscientious objection on the grounds of recognised religious doctrine, these objectors to make a donation to a charity recognised by a State Government. The amount shall be equal to the student union fee. Further, CALPS urges all students to pay voluntary subscriptions (union fees) for membership of student unions where compulsory fees cannot be levied.

CALPS recognises and supports the valuable role of student unions in providing access to educational experiences broader than those formally provided by education institutions.

CALPS affirms the right of students to strong effective representation on matters affecting students' welfare, and interests on all levels and participation in decision-making affecting their own learning, especially in changing the focus of control over educational decision-making from senior staff to all students and staff.

CALPS affirms the right of Unions, including student unions, to criticise and act against attempts by conservative Governments to prevent reforms to the social structure of the Australian Community and condemns the attempts by conservative Governments to silence such criticism through legislation aimed at preventing unions from entering the arena of social debate.

CALPS commends the extension of campus-based media outlets as a means of considerably widening the opportunity for views to be heard which are alternative to those emphasised by current mass media outlets.

CALPS emphatically condemns the interference in student unions by the Western Australian and Victorian Governments and the planned interference by the Queensland Land Federal governments.

CALPS gives a high priority to the campaign to defend student unions, their autonomous democratic operation and their right to collect compulsory fees. Further, CALPS urges all Affiliates to take an active role in this campaign in order to defeat the reactionary assault currently being waged against the right of students to organise as they decide democratically.

CALPS calls on all ALP governments to implement the policy passed at the 1977 ALP Federal Conference in support of students' rights to autonomous control of their student organisations.

CALPS urges all students to actively take part in the decision-making and implementation of policies of their student unions, noting that only through democratic socialist policies will student unions attain the broad support and strength which they need to succeed in their objectives.

CALPS, acknowledging the role of the Australian Union of Students (AUS) as the national union representative of Australian students and as a national and regional association of local student unions, urges all student union/associations/SRCs/Guilds, to gain or retain membership of AUS!

CALPS affirms that AUS should continue to be an open and responsive national union of students, a catalyst for progressive views and campaigns on campuses and off, and a means for the expression of students' views and needs.

CALPS, noting the attacks through various media on AUS from conservative governments, organisations, students and other individuals, urges all students to refrain from attacking the Union in the mass media.

CALPS recognises:

(a) the need for action by students against the policies and deeds of conservative governments, especially the cutbacks on education funding by the Fraser government and the attacks on student unions by the Western Australian, Victorian, Queensland and Federal governments.

(b) the increasing need for resistance to right wing and reactionary students' attempts to aid the destruction of student unions and the Australian Union of Students, CALPS supports co-operation with other progressive groups to fulfil the above need.

CALPS affirms the importance of services of student unions to their members as an integral part of student unions' activities. Further, CALPS strongly supports the retention and expansion of funding by student unions of campus clubs, societies and other groups. CALPS, recognising the need for ongoing rational and democratic debate among students on the structure, policy and campaigns of AUS calls on its members to strive for democratic reforms of such structure and policy.

CALPS supports: the election of AUS officers and representatives under the collegiate system where delegates to AUS Council and Regional Conferences are directly elected - as the most democratic for the Union with its present basic structure.

Further, CALPS affirms the following principles for AUS elections:

- (i) the union exists to represent its membership and to campaign for and defend their rights and interests and should not spend inordinate amounts of time and money on internal elections
- (ii) the union's autonomy should not be threatened by interference of individuals or organisations not accountable to the membership, especially governments, their instrumentalities and the mass media
- (iii) AUS officers and representatives should remain responsible to Councils the Executive and relevant subsidiary decision-making bodies within the Union,
- (iv) candidates rights to stand should not be prejudiced by their sex, sexuality, race, age, political affiliation, spiritual beliefs, the size and location of their campus and their financial resources
- (v) adequate knowledge of the capability and experience of candidates is necessary to ensure responsible votes are exercised.

CALPS believing that AUS should be primarily a single national union, and accepting the need for greater involvement of all students in AUS activities, calls for greater responsibility to be given to the regions in the running of their specific campaigns, and notes the need for increased variation of AUS activities to suit the particular needs and policies of constituents in each region.

CALPS, in calling for greater regionalisation of AUS, notes the importance of the presence of paid officers in each region and the need for increased Regional funds."



THE 1878 SHOW

As an integral part of its headlong plunge back into the nineteenth century, the Fraser government has launched an attack on students, the university, and by implication, the trade union movement.

Students

The University Council has accepted and reaffirmed its belief that effective student associations are an integral part of university life, and to be effective they must be compulsorily funded.

At ANU, the Students' Association maintains a wide range of social and welfare services which are now being threatened. These include over 50 clubs and societies of many diverse interests, the stress cottage, low cost accommodation, childcare, low interest student loans, and media services such as 2XX and Woroni.

Without compulsory funding, these services cannot continue.

It is very easy for people like the proponents of the present legislation to argue that the principle of compulsory membership is an infringement of "individual rights". These are people who have control over the mass media, who are never short of money to provide for the most basic of personal needs. They are also the people whose endless rounds of stuffy cocktail parties and "old school tie" society means they have no need for the social and cultural activities sponsored by the S.A.

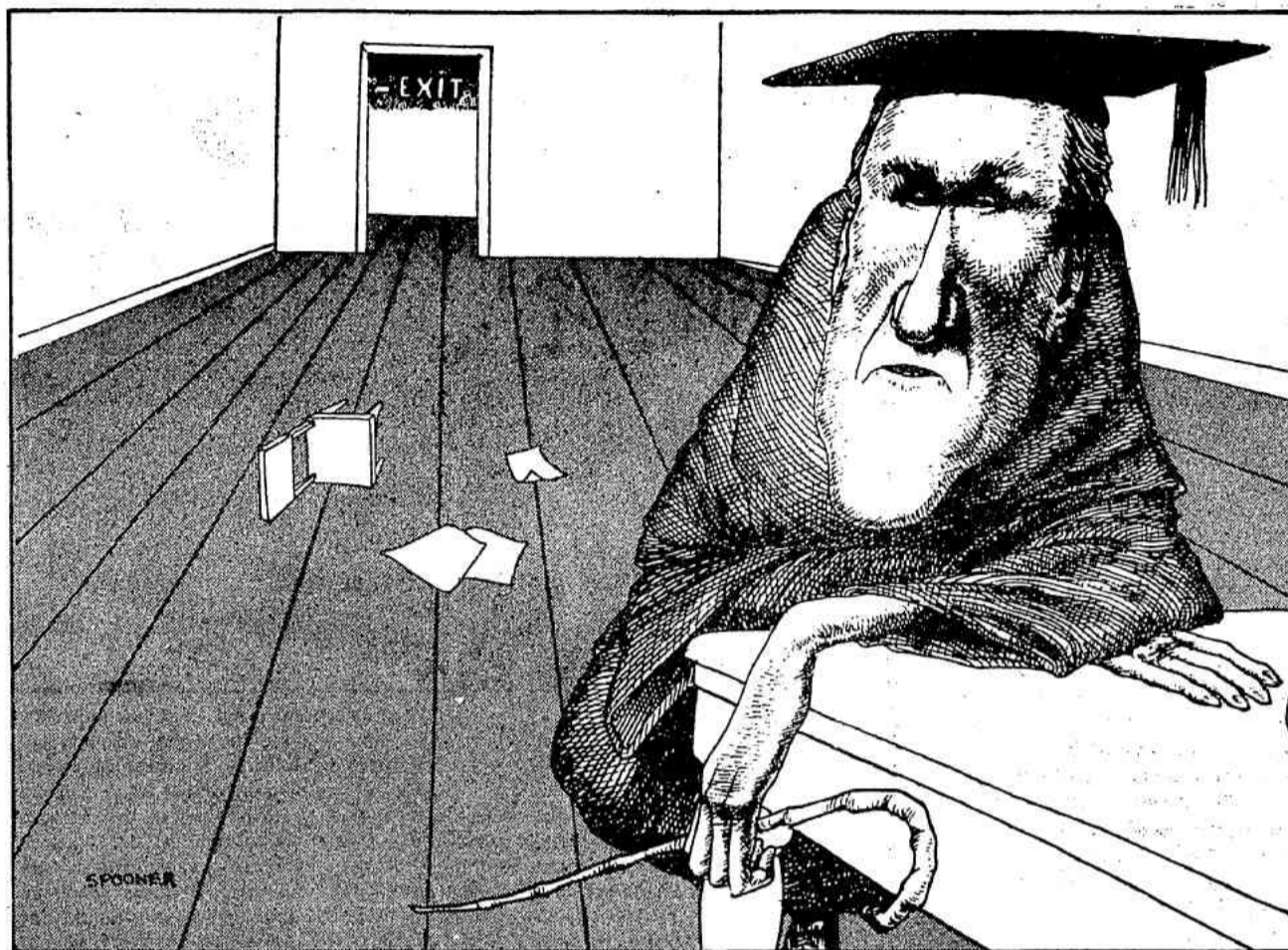
The elections last year for office bearers of the Association, and the stand repeatedly taken by general meetings indicates an overwhelming support for the continuation of these services, for the continuation of compulsory membership.

The best guarantees of "individual freedom" are democracy and accountability. The Students' Association officers have no independent financial powers. The financial powers of the Association (not the officers) are exercisable only by a general meeting of the Association. All members, that is, all undergraduate students are entitled to attend, speak and vote at these general meetings. The officers are all liable to dismissal by a general meeting for any misbehaviour.

Failure to control the association does not mean that it is undemocratic, yet this is what the A.N.U. Liberals argue. They know and admit that they do not have the support of anything like a majority of students. The same is true of AUS. Liberal parliamentarians will openly admit that the present leadership of the Association and AUS was fairly elected and has, as a Liberal Party senator recently remarked, the support of over 70% of the students". Not even the Fraser government can claim this level of support.

Carrick has already foreshadowed a loans scheme to "supplement" TEAS in the coming budget. Tertiary allowances remain well below the poverty line and funding for all those areas of learning and research not of immediate and direct benefit to the present economic system is being slashed.

Students are historically a vocal and idealistic section of society. Our society purports to believe in an adequate education system which is available to all, yet Fraser and his axemen are busily at work demolishing the inadequate system we now have. Students, by demanding an end to this type of governmental hypocrisy, can bring into public focus the inadequacies and inept-



itude of this, or any government's education policy

It is your education, your organisation, your rights as students which are under attack.

If you, the students, don't speak up now, you will be forced, forever, to hold your peace.

University

The university has been, historically a centre for reasoned critiques of society. The University must maintain its autonomy, its independence of the whims of the incumbent government.

All the recent actions of the Fraser government directed towards curtailing the independence of the ANU, open the way for the establishment of a brain factory, not a University

Budgetary restrictions mean a reduction in services and fewer staff. Chairs and lectureships remain unfilled, maintenance work remains undone and library hours and facilities are restricted. The same amount needs to be done, yet fewer people remain to perform the required work.

The Commonwealth Employees legislation applies to the University — tenured academics can be sacked if they displease the government. Equally as frightening are Carrick's proposed changes to the financial structure. Instead of University Council deliberating over the university's budget, this will be done in Carrick's office. Courses which displease the government may not be funded.

The University has repeatedly accepted the principle of compulsory student organisations and in doing so has acted well within its traditional scope of authority. It has instituted detailed and comprehensive procedures for those people who have GENUINE conscientious objections to membership. These procedures were submitted to Carrick who raised no objection to them.

Yabsley, Walton and Newlands originally refused to use the objection procedures open to them. However, they have now decided to appeal. It will be interesting indeed to see if their naked political motives will be classified as genuine conscientious objections, or whether they will, as they should be, refused exemption on conscientious grounds.

For Carrick to threaten to intervene in the matter is an affront to the dignity and independence of the university. This is a matter solely for the university to determine, not ministers for education who are forced to act because of sectional right-wing pressure.

We have seen education spending in this country slashed since 1975. Fraser has identified the beneficiaries of the taxpayers' money — defence, big business and the multinationals. The attacks on both student unions, on the university are methods of eliminating public criticism of this government's appalling record on education.

Fraser says that the position of the universities must be "reviewed". Does this mean the closure of small new universities like Deakin University? Does this mean that universities soon may be able to teach those subjects which provide for "job opportunities"? Are universities merely to produce brain and skill fodder for the bureaucracy, big business and the multinationals?

Unions

The proposed amendments to the ANU's Act must be met with concern by all trade unionists.

As the forces of reaction move against groups and organisations concerned with the education policies of this government the same forces are moving to eliminate all forms of opposition.

In every State where anti student legislation has been implemented or proposed, it has been followed by anti union legislation.

Western Australia, the first State to move against students has also moved

to introduce so-called "right to work" legislation. This is an invitation to scabs. In W.A. now there is a company set up for the sole purpose of breaking strikes. Not only is this tolerated by the government but senior National-Country Party officials were involved in the company's formation, and are involved in its management.

Victoria has introduced anti-student legislation and is following it up with anti union legislation. Penal clauses are nothing new to the trade union movement, but as well as this, the Victorian legislation makes it a criminal offence for an individual worker to refuse to work with a scab, or to "induce" a non unionist to become a member.

Queensland is preparing to move against students and is also preparing "right to work", that is, "right to scab" legislation.

The workers of this country are being disembowelled by this government and its prehistoric economic policies.

There is no recovery on the way. Capitalism is merely continuing to convulse through yet another crisis, and traditionally it is the workers who are bearing the brunt. Wage "indexation" has been exposed as real wage reduction, unemployment continues to rise and job vacancies are falling. The workers will react to protect their living standards. At this stage Fraser will "be forced to act to protect the rights of the individual worker". In the same manner as Hamer, Court and Joh have acted.

There can be no doubt that the Liberals will intensify their campaign against the trade union movement.

Unions are the strength of the oppressed and underprivileged sections of our society. Thus it is in the interests of all unionists to oppose the anti-student legislation which is obviously the first step in a campaign against unions generally, and all sources of criticism of the present regime.

STORIES



The supersonic Redeye missile solves that problem. You launch it and leave.

ABORIGINAL STUDIES

Way back in the Dreaming, Norm, the marsupial mouse and, Larry, the sand goanna sat talking on opposite sides of the chicken wire fence.

"Well, what do you think of this lousy Woroni article anyhow?" asked Norm.

"Pretty slack if you ask me," replied Larry.

"I reckon it's worth turning into a myth anyway, especially if we call it *Guruwariyalwalyumangurudji*," suggested the omnipotent little mammal.

"No!" retorted the reptile angrily, "no one will believe this if it is a myth. If we were here 400 years ago making a myth they would believe you, they'd say 'this isn't true, this is a real myth' but the jerks reading this believe in a present, you know, clocks and all that. We know what was will be and all that bullshit but if we only made a myth five minutes ago they'd say 'this isn't true, this isn't a myth'."

"I wouldn't give a blowfly's arse for the reality of people with clocks. Me, being a Dreamtime mouse, am an eternal source of cosmic power, therefore my reality has much greater validity than theirs. I am because I am you see." Norm announced this last sentence very knowingly.

"Okav, okav" Larry fumed,

"Don't put a Descartes on me with a chicken wire fence between us. I'll admit that with a name like *Guruwariyalwalyumangurudji* you could make a stale fart a myth but these blokes are thick. Anyhow, give it a burl."

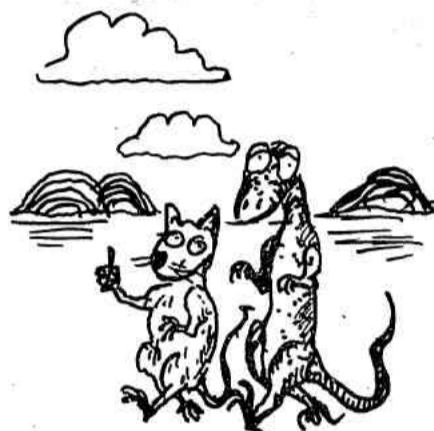
"Right" affirmed the mouse, "this article is now a myth."

I am the author, I am also a university student who deals in facts not mythology. If this article persists a myth I shall have to give it a low pass.

"You see" screamed the goanna. "I told you they wouldn't believe it. Make it a dream and then they won't have to know when it happened."

"BZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZ" squeales the alarm at midday. "O NO!" you scream, jerking awake. You were supposed to be delivering a tute paper on *Guruwariyalwalyumangurudji* dreamtime mythology five minutes ago! You dress hurriedly and rush to your appointment arriving just as everybody was beginning to become restless. You sit down and pull out your notes. Immediately the tutor begins letting blood from his arms into the chalk box. Two girls gather carpet tiles and display them in attractive configurations on the overhead projector. The rest of the class chant and prepare an open fire in the middle of the room. To the side a lizard and a mouse look on. You turn to them and say, "Shit, just another bloody dream, might as well go back home to bed."

ard and a mouse look on. You turn to them and say, "Shit, just another bloody dream, might as well go back home to bed."



This you fully intend to do, but first you stop off at a MacDonalds and purchase a photograph of a Big Mac to munch on. More reality in one of these things than any hundred Abor-

iginal myths you think as you stroll along and gobble. Just then a bus swerves onto the footpath and splatters some of your very tangible brains up a post.

"Am I dead?" you speculate "I wouldn't have been eating a photograph of a hamburger while I was alive so it must have been a dream, like this is. Of course it all really might be a myth, if it isn't I'll make it one. But first I'll get some sleep, I've got to give a tute paper yesterday." Norm, the marsupial mouse, rolls his eyes and moves over to make room in the Dreamtime.

Meanwhile this article has careered out of control in an apocalyptic explosion of ball point pens and overdue library books becoming once again nothing more than another bunch of messy words on a student newspaper.

Aboriginal Studies could become a world wide bestseller if written up and sold under the title 'How to Rearrange and yet Maintain Your Reality in just 100,000 Years' or else 'Confessions of a Dreamtime Sand Goanna'. The Sun could serialise it under such blazing captions as 'Ginggi Becomes Phallic Monolith in Desert Debate'.

Tony Lambert

A RECOLLECTION OF STINGS PASSED

PART I.

I first encountered Clive Racine in a small cafe off the Boulevard Christian Barnard, where I was just finishing my lunch. Racine entered abruptly from the street, introduced himself, and announced that his dear cousine had joined the Little Sisters of Invisibility, an obscure order dedicated to St. Patagonia. I nodded my condolences. He then graciously informed me that my vest was smouldering, and suddenly began to weep uncontrollably. I pondered on this. His observation was of course true, as some rogue had slipped a burning cigar butt into my pocket, doubtless to confuse me. But who was this stranger sobbing dejectedly at my table? The events of the next three months were to bring me no closer to a solution to the problem.

I mumbled a farewell, and left without paying my bill. There was much on my mind. Taking a cab to the offices of the Imperial Brassware company, I was resolved to bring the matter up with my good friend Egon Typhus. Typhus greeted me in the foyer of the building, which was located in the Moroccan quarter of the city. He too, was obviously deeply disturbed. Before I could begin to recount the strange happening of the previous half hour, he confided that his wife Muriel had abandoned him to join the SAME ORDER. I was now truly at a loss. Two people,

one a stranger and one an old comrade were confronted by the same problem almost simultaneously. As coolly as I could, I suggested that we sit down. Shakily, Typhus agreed. "Listen, old man" I began "things have become more than a little difficult for all of us lately." Typhus nodded mutely.

Clearing my throat, I continued. The conversation was totally one-sided, with me exuding total trivia to calm the quaking wretch. After about fifteen minutes, he fell sideways from his chair and lay rigid and glassy-eyed on the Berber rug that lay in between our

seats. I tapped him on the shin, shoulder and thigh in an attempt to revive him, but failed. Remembering a foreign spy film that I had once seen, I looked around the room for water but could find none. I decided that I would have to try my luck with the ashtray, and crossed to the table to pick it up. With surprise, I noted a gold-embossed calling card in the enamelled brass tray. One corner was slightly burnt, apparently by a Shimmelpennik Corona, but the name was quite clear —

CLIVE RACINE
TAXIDERMIST
37 Rue de la Fourmi.

Naturally I was more than shocked. The bare bones of a vast and complex mystery were slowly starting to fall into place, but the partial skeleton could bear no resemblance to the original animal. Seized by a sudden inspiration, I searched my shredded vest pocket, and withdrew the now extinguished cigar butt from the cafe. The label was identical to that of the butt in the ashtray in Typhus' office. Leaving the prostrate Typhus on the floor, I retired to my chambers to assimilate the curious facts.

Tim Harris



DAS KAPITAL



Part I - The Revolutionary Process

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels meet in a London pub.

F: Evenin' Karl
 K: Evenin' Fred. Damned cold outside
 F: Real icpick weather.
 K: Wish I had my coat
 F: Where is it?
 K: Down at the pawnbrokers. (Marx turns out his pockets)
 F: Karl, why don't you tell me when you're broke. You'd think I ran the factory in Manchester for my own profit.
 K: You never come round, do you?
 F: Where?
 K: To my house. How long have you been in London?
 F: Three days.
 K: Three days! You used to head for our place as soon as you got off the train from Manchester. Now you won't come for love or money. What's got into you?
 F: I just don't get on with your children any more.
 K: What scheisen. You're their favourite uncle. No sooner are you in the door than little Edgar is hugging you tight.
 F: They're a bit too much for me, Karl. They're always at me. "Uncle Engels, can you do this, Uncle Engels, can you do that?"
 K: But you're so happy. The children look forward to you coming because I'm so dismal. I tend to hang around like some kind of spectre.
 F: You're being too hard on yourself, Karl. Here, have a beer.
 K: Ta
 (Both drink. Engels turns green.)
 F: Bloody awful beer.
 K: Probably hasn't cleaned the pipes in here for ages.
 F: Slack labour, I'd say.
 K: Yes, Fred.
 F: Pay them a decent wage, and they won't do any work.
 K: Yes Fred.
 F: Give them a fair go, and they won't give you a fair go in return.
 K: Shut up Fred.
 F: I'm sick and tired of them. Sick sick sick. I am SO tired of them all.
 K: Shut up Fred. You're making a scene.

F: I want to make a scene.
 K: Shut up!
 F: I'm such of it. You and your children and your International.
 K: Don't talk to me about the International.
 F: It's your fault. You go it going.
 K: How was I to know it would be so boring? I wanted a revolution. All I got was bureaucracy. Night after night I go to the meetings of committees, then sub-committees, then sub-sub-committees.
 F: Serves you right.
 K: But they're all the same. They all go past midnight. They all have some idiot who gets up as soon as the agenda's been read. He demands we suspend standing orders and denounce the death of some peasant's pet rabbit in lower Lithuania. It's bloody impossible.
 F: Things have to be discussed.
 K: All I expect is some sanity. These meetings end up with everyone shouting at each other and nothing getting done.
 F: Prussian spies could be at it again.
 K: No, these idiots wouldn't need provoking. Last night I had to sign membership cards for 200 of them. It's enough to make you go anarchist.
 (Rabid dog runs in. Bites Marx on leg. Runs out.)
 F: Want another beer?
 K: Ta.
 F: I believe the revolution will be based on two things. More Piss and Better Piss.
 K: That's profound, Fred.
 F: I thought so.
 K: Oh well, bottoms up. (Lifts glass)
 F: Tops down.
 K: What?
 F: Bottoms up, tops down. It's a joke.
 K: Your attitude to women is disgusting.
 F: I wasn't referring to women.
 K: You're a liar as well. You treat them like dirt.
 F: You can talk! What about you and your housekeeper?
 K: Don't be stupid.
 F: You're stupid. Jenny knows what you're doing. Only Karl Marx would worry about get-

ing it off with his housekeeper.
 K: You're vile.
 F: You're bourgeois. Look, I want to go on a pub-crawl. Want to come?
 K: Who else?
 F: Bakunin?
 K: Boring!
 (Coldstream Guards march through pub, humming "Anarchy in the U.K.")
 F: What about Leibknecht?
 K: The boy is going to be a social democrat. I can always tell a social democrat. They can't hold their drink.
 F: God you crap on.
 K: Drinking is a serious activity. When one drinks, one is not just consuming some liquid. One is reflecting back on one's being. As one drinks more and more, one's being becomes clearer and clearer. Getting drunk, to me, is a matter of gaining consciousness. Getting drunk is a matter of LOSING consciousness.
 F: In a trivial sense.
 F: Trivial!
 K: Losing consciousness is not really losing consciousness. Losing consciousness is really gaining consciousness.
 F: That's contradictory.
 K: In losing what one is, one gains one's self.
 F: But it's contradictory.
 K: Of course it is. It's contradictory because it's conditioned by existing contradictions in society.
 F: You're as slimy as a snake. As soon as you make a mistake, you say it's because of society. What a technique.
 K: You should have studied Hegel.
 F: I was working.
 K: You weren't working. You were expropriating.
 F: Anything you say, Karl.
 K: Another beer?
 F: Yes, Karl.
 K: Ta.
 (Huge staircase descends on stage. Dressed in tuxedos and top hats, Coldstream Guards march downstairs, singing "Somewhere Over the Rainbow".)
 NEXT ISSUE: The Labour Process.

Hedonists Disco

The Hedonists Discotheque presented by the A.N.U. Liberal Society was a raging success, being attended by over 180 people. Among those present were the society's patron, Senator John Knight, and executive members of the Australian Liberal Students' Federation, who were in Canberra that weekend.

The idea for a discotheque was developed in response to the complaints of many students that the typical Union Friday nights band scene was becoming too staid as the semester drew to a close. Further, our entertainments committee which organized the event felt that a special function was needed to celebrate the end of lectures.

The discotheque was never intended to be a political function, that is, a "Liberal" event but merely an enjoyable evening hosted by Liberal students. To underline this fact the President of the Students' Association, Peter Cardwell, was presented with a complimentary ticket. The committee was, however, conscious of the fact that various articles in 'Woroni' had created a distorted image of the Liberal Society. It was hoped that the discotheque would provide a forum for moderate students of differing politics to meet in convivial circumstances. This hope in fact came to fruition.

About one week before our evening of decadence, the National University Theatrical Society through Salon Cryptique, decided to host a punk rock anti-disco. Although some Liberal members were perturbed, and viewed the anti-disco as an attempt to damage our function, my belief was to the contrary. First, the anti-disco focused attention on both functions and made up for our lack of effective advertising.

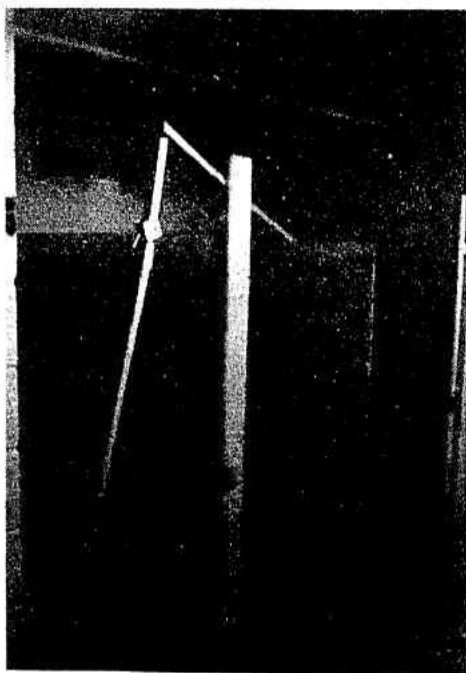
Secondly, I thought that the two events would appeal to differing tastes. Finally, Liberal students preaching the benefits of free competition could not complain when confronted with that same competition.

Any initial worries of poor attendance proved to be groundless as 180 people ate, drank and danced their way through the night. There was a variety of costumes with Senator Knight making his debut as a bag of fruit. Some arrived as Arabians, others as punk-rockers when the anti-disco finished at 9.30. In all a thoroughly enjoyable time was had by everyone - even the unfortunate Senator who was harangued by two ALP students after his disguise fell off.

Finally, mention should be made of the tremendous disco system provided. Two large Cerwin Vega speakers completely filled the Union Bistro and part of the Refectory, with "clean" sound - a welcome change indeed.



UNION BAR TOILETS WRECKED



Who got all those fabulous prizes in Mastermind 1978?

Nobody. Because there weren't any prizes. Just a trophy and a rather unique title. Now we'd agree you can't drive a trophy, or wash your clothes with a title, but if you're interested in this comparatively intangible honour, now's the time to send for your 1979 entry form. You need to be pretty well informed in general knowledge, and have an exceptional understanding of one special subject of your own choice. By the way, most of the 1978 contestants confided they didn't even expect to get selected, so give it a go, send for your entry form today.

MASTERMIND

Send for your entry form to:
MASTERMIND
G.P.O. Box 487 Sydney NSW. 2001



Hurry!
Entries close soon.

SPS 29.85.403

HIROSHIMA DAY

This day has now become one of international mobilization; a time not only to commemorate the first nuclear bomb dropping and to think about how bad it was, but, more importantly we can display our opposition to weapons proliferation and the arms race, linking this to the nuclear industry and its disastrous effects on the environment, human health and civil liberties.

Nuclear weapons use uranium in its most blatant destructive form. However the destructive potential of the nuclear industry and its proponents are almost omin-present and we shouldn't ignore the threats in their less obvious forms. In all stages of the nuclear industry from mining to reactors to waste, not only the environment but people's health are adversely affected.

Canberra Movement Against Uranium has opted for a day of communication rather than demonstration on Hiroshima Day this year. Activities will include films, displays, discussion workshops with childcare, refreshments and entertainment throughout.

Although the obvious issue for the day is weapons proliferation and nuclear war, we hope to emphasise the more immediate issues of Aboriginal Land Rights, civil liberties, and perhaps non-safeguards in the nuclear industry. Films for each of these areas are being arranged, including Dr Strangelove, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Better Active Today than radioactive tomorrow, etc. and displays and workshops will relate to them.

For publicity we are having a 'radioactive' balloon release on Friday, 4th August, and hopefully an entourage of street theatre through main shopping centres on Saturday 5th August.

Anyone interested in helping out in any way would be most welcome. Otherwise watch out for further details around campus and be sure to come along and show your support. Apart from a small number of students, there has not been a lot of involvement with campus people in the movement. It would be nice to see this situation change.



SMASH THE BUREAUCRACY !

HUMANITY IS ONE !

These slogans appear regularly around campus, yet how concerned are most students at bettering their world? John Hirt, from Sydney, has been involved with communities in Australia, Europe and U.S.A. that have been protesting in particular at the use of nuclear energy. He has participated in many non-violent demonstrations.

I believe that what is important in non-violence - the thing that is not seen - is reality itself perceived at its deepest level. The radical truth of reality is that we are all one.

Our difficulty in realizing the radical truth of reality is that we can experience openness only through the renunciation of an ego-self. It is a never-ending task of non-violence to live out a dying to self, so that we may both see and follow a way which is deeply real.

John comes from Sydney and will be visiting on campus next week to talk to students. He can be found in Union Meetings Room 1-2pm on.

Tues. 27 July: Christ and the ocker student - where the hell are the barometers of justice?

Wed. 28 July: Christ, Stewth - They're going to blow us all to hell. impending nuclear holocaust.

Thurs. 29 July: Christ and yous ockas. Where do you go from here?

and
Thurs 29 July: 7.30 pm.
Coffee Shop in Union Meetings Room.

Music from Rod Boucher.

ECONOMICS GRADUATES

An opportunity to apply your skills.

As a graduate in the Australian Treasury you will participate in the preparation of advice for the Treasurer and senior advisers on general economic matters and on specific policy proposals.

The work involves both macro and micro economic analysis covering Budgetary policy; Taxation policy; Incomes and price policy; External economic policy and relations; Commonwealth/State financial relations; Commonwealth Government loan programs; Financial markets and Banking/non-Banking institutions; Australian capital investment abroad and Foreign investment in Australia.

Graduates with qualifications and an interest in all areas of economics, econometrics, statistics, mathematics and law are needed. An honours degree is preferred but is not essential.

Salary as an Assistant Research Officer is within the range \$8337-10954 (with a commencing rate being dependent on the level of qualification held).

If you are interested in appointment as an Assistant Research Officer with the Treasury, you should obtain an application form from and apply to the Regional Director's Office, Public Service Board in your State or Territory and indicate on the application that your first preference would be for an appointment with the Treasury.

The Public Service Board's Regional Directors may be contacted on:
Canberra: 498866, Sydney, 2325700, Melbourne: 6622411, Brisbane: 225 0122, Adelaide: 506377, Perth: 3223666, Hobart: 205011, Darwin: 802746.

Applications should be submitted by 1 September 1978.

THE TREASURY CANBERRA

ELVIS AIN'T DEAD (BUT HE DON'T GO OUT MUCH)

Johnny Rotten may be the anti-Christ but Elvis Costello has to be the anti-hero: When it comes to love, poor old El is the perpetual loser. Yet he doesn't take the knocks meekly. No, he wants revenge on those who do him wrong — "if I'm gonna go down, you're gonna come with me". (Hand in Hand on *This Year's Model*). Much has been written about Elvis' obsessions with revenge and guilt and the hostility evident in many of his songs yet what critics seem to overlook is the way these feelings co-exist with a peculiar sensitivity and vulnerability. In his portrayals of the women who are the object of his feelings, Elvis is revealing more about himself than his lovers. While his songs show us a frustrated, inadequate and often hostile man, it is a man who displays so much feeling that after a round with El's songs the listener is left emotionally exhausted.

Little is known of Elvis' past. Born 23 years ago as son Declan to Mr and Mrs McManus, El grew up in Liverpool in a house full of British jazz records owned by his Dad who sang with the Joe Loss Orchestra. Prior to sending off the demo tape to Stiff Records which resulted in him being launched on to an unsuspecting public in 1977, he was the lead singer with a bluegrass band called Flip City, who at one point had a residency at London's Marquee Club as house support band. Elvis has a surprising affection for country music and claims it is the only musical genre where you can find the same sort of honest expression of what it's like to be a complete loser that is to be found in his own songs. His heroes are country singer George Jones and the late Gram Parsons and his song "Stranger in the House" (on the single included with the English import copies of *This Year's Model*) was written specifically for Jones to record.

Australia's first taste of Mr Costello was through the "My Aim is True" elpee, an album which helped shape his reputation as the unsuccessful lover —

"I said I'm so happy I could die,
She said drop dead then left with
another guy" (Red Shoes)
whose women always seem to be the
cold, unresponsive, bitchy types —

"She's filing her nails while they're
dragging the lake" (Watching the
Detectives)

and who always seem to have the upper
hand in the relationship — "She looks
so good he gets down and begs" and
thus virtually invite El's vengeance upon
themselves — "It only took one little
finger to blow her away". (Both from
Watching The Detectives).

Even in the humorous "Mystery
Dance", El is depicted as a sexual
incompetent who doesn't even know
the right techniques —

"You can see those pictures in any
magazine
But what's the use of looking if
you don't know what they
mean,"

and then "Miracle Man" sees him as un-
able to do anything well enough to sat-
isfy his demanding girlfriend.

All this is presented with such an
intensity that it's almost impossible not
to sympathise with El's plight. Probably
much of the appeal of his songs for
males stems from an identification with

the miseries he suffers as a result of his
various relationships with women. The
image of female as enemy comes across
very strongly in the first album but
unlike many critics I find *This Year's
Model* much more sympathetic in tone.
Several of the songs on the follow up
elpee are concerned with fashion — as
the title suggests. "This Year's Girl"
attacks both the way women like Farrah
Fawcett-Majors and Cheryl Tiegs are
held up as the ideal way to look for a
particular year and the exploitation of
the girl that this involves, although in
El's eyes these girls still come out on
top — "There'd be no doubt / that
she's still gotten much more than she's
lost", despite the fact that "time's
running out / (and) she's not happy
with the cost." Yes, being this year's
girl is a short lived experience. But
El is not attacking the girl so much
as the system which takes her over
as just one more commodity to be
marketed and the way we are all
accomplices in this process —

"You think you all own little pieces
of this year's girl . . .

You see yourself rolling on the
carpet with this year's girl."

In a sense, this song sums up Elvis'
own fears about what the music busi-
ness will do to him, for like this
year's girl, he is a commodity to be
marketed and sold as long as public
taste (something that is often privately
manipulated) permits.

El's attitudes to the radio program-
ing aspect of the music biz are docu-
mented in "Radio, Radio" (which
appears on the American release of
This Year's Model), a song of scarcely
controlled rage at the fact that "radio
is in the hands of such a lot of fools
trying to anaesthetize the way you
feel". (He obviously hasn't listened
to 2XX — Ed.) And he's aware of
the incongruity of attacking the syst-

em which has allowed him his present
fame and fortune. —

"I want to bite the hand that feeds
me

I want to bite that hand so badly
I want to make them wish they'd
never seen me."

Like "This Year's Girl", "Chelsea"
and "Lipstick Vogue" decry the
imperatives of fashion with the girl
in the latter song being praised cos
she's "not just another mouth lost in
a lipstick vogue" But as Elvis has
recently observed, his protest that "I
don't want to go to Chelsea" (Chelsea
representing the ultimate in trendiness)
has been in vain, for in 1978 at least
there is nothing more fashionable than
Elvis Costello, who is surely this year's
model for the British rock'n roll
industry.

This second album reinforced El's
status as songwriter extraordinaire but
also revealed a progression in the
musical intensity of his songs, a change
directly attributable to the introduction
of his own backing band, the Attrac-
tions. Amazingly, none of the Attractions
had played together prior to joining up
with Elvis, they were merely individual
respondents to an ad placed in one of
the music biz papers. Both drummer
Pete Thomas and bassist Bruce Thomas
had had experience in various other
bands but for keyboards player Steve
Naive, fresh out of the Royal Academy
of Music, (having failed his exams) it
was his first experience in a band.
And they are just so right together.
Bruce's solid bass line and Pete's
sparsely thumping beat are filled in
by Steve's keyboards and El's
occasional riff to produce the dis-
tinctive mix that is El and the
Attractions. You couldn't fail to
identify, them so completely theirs
is the resulting sound. The compar-
isons with Graham Parker that used
to haunt E.C. after My Aim is
True are no longer viable (not that
they ever really were). The early
sixties sound of the first album has
been brought right up to 1978 on
Model and if you want to see the
difference the Attractions make to
his songs, compare the studio
versions of "Mystery Dance" and
"Miracle Man" on the *Aim* elpee
with the live versions (with the
Attractions) on the B side of the
single Watching the Detectives and
the Live Stiffs elpee respectively.

The question now of course is can
Elvis and co maintain the high stand-
ard they have set. This is a problem
which besets anyone who produces a
highly acclaimed album, as Bruce
Springsteen would be the first to
testify. Obviously, with the super-
latives being thrown around about
this band for both live and studio
performances the pressure of come
up with something of equal quality
must be great. Elvis seems fairly
confident that he can do it. I am
too.

Marie Ryan.



RAMONES



The Ramones
Rocket to Russia
Leave Home

In the tradition of the Beach Boys and the Jacksons America has produced another wholesome family band - Johnny, Joey, Dee Dee and Tommy Ramone. Well if you're into nice and pleasant music for our times and are saving up for a cool white suit then you'd better stop reading this and go back to your Bee Gees cause the Ramones are not your type of band.

The Ramones are true punk. They're not all poetic like Patti Smith, or sexual as Blondie (though reliable sources tell me that this is the name of a band I'm still doubtful). Ramones are not another American "New Wave" band aka Television and Talking Heads who really think that they are so pretty. Ramones' music is real blank generation stuff. If you don't know what minimalism is then listen to the Ramones.

These albums aren't on green or red or polka dot plastic and the music isn't a cleverly constructed piece of art with subtle poetic lyrics. The Ramones go straight for your guts. They've got something to say and they don't waste time doing it. The message is simple; this world is dull, boring, monotonous and dumb. "We're a happy family" on Rocket sums it up

Sitting here in Queens
Eating refried beans
We're in all the magazines
Gulpin' down thorazines
We ain't got no friends
That's how the Romanes see the world, and they tell us in a most powerful driving way on tracks like 'Cretin Hop' and 'Teenage Lobotomy'. Society fucks us all and they don't see much chance to escape. I wanna be wellbut 'My future's bleak, Ain't it neat?'
They don't want to be pinheads no more but that's what we're looking

forward to so just swallow your pride and have a real good time.

We're being led to wake up to it all, that the means you use to escape from the present, sex drugs music etc. are just so much shock treatment -

"Peace and love is here to stay
And now I can wake up and face the day
Happy, happy, happy all the time,
Shock treatment, I'm doing fine."
Like the Pistols the Ramones are out to shock your system, telling you to get up off your arses and face all that despair and meaninglessness.

Of the three albums "The Ramones" is the neatest, with the first side being infinitely superior to the second. "Blitzkrieg Bop", "Judy is a funk" and "Now I wanna sn iff some glue" are good indicators of what to expect, while "I wanna be your boyfriend" is a classic, combining a 'sensuous' idea with complete indifference. "Havana Affair" on the second side is pretty good but the rest is not so great and probably demonstrates the dangers involved in minimalism, it can become pretty monotonous, boring and dumb in itself.

Not so 'Rocket' and 'Leave Home', these are great albums which must be prescribed listening for anyone who fancies that they're into punk or new wave. 'Rocket' kicks off with 'Cretin Hop' followed by their tribute to the sixties, 'Rockaway Beach'

"Upon the roof, out on the street
Down in the playground the hot concrete
Bus ride is too slow
They blast out the disco on the radio"
Later on come 'I Don't Care', their best known track 'Sheena is a punk rocker' and 'We're a Happy Family'. The whole side is classic Ramones,

and makes it difficult for the second side to compete, but it does, with "Teenage Lobotomy", an amazing version of the old 'Do you wanna dance', 'I wanna be well' and 'Ramona' which all stand out.

The 'repackages' 'Leave Home' also has 'Sheena' on it but that's a small price to pay for an album that leads off with 'Glad to see you'

"Gonna take a chance on her
One bullet in the cylinder
And in the moment of passion
Get the glory like Charles Manson."
and follows up with 'Gimme Gimme Shock Treatment'. Then come the Ramones great 'love songs', 'I Remember You', 'Oh Oh I lover her so', 'Sheena' and 'Suzy is a headbanger' and ends up with 'Pinhead'

Again side two finds it hard to compete, but 'Swallow my Pride' -

"Gonna have a real cool time
And every thing's gonna be real fine
Swallow my pride, oh yeah."

and 'What's your Game' really stand out. 'Commando', 'You're Gonna Kill that Girl' and 'You should never have opened that Door' finish the side in great Ramones fashion.

The Ramones aren't 'power-pop' or pretty 'New Wave'. They're raw basic and out to shock. There's no subtlety just hard, fast driving music to be played loud and enjoy. Maybe we're in the post punk era, but the Ramones are a great reminder of what inspirational stuff punk was possible of achieving.

Paul Robilliard.

SPORTS

"Reckless"

When vocalist Steve Cummings and guitarist Ed Bates formed the Sports after the demise of the Pelaco Bros in late '76 they were into old rhythm and blues and wanted a band that would not only reassert the power of R & R, but contemporize it, and if possible, set fire to the country. Well this is the band! 'Reckless' is one of the finest debut albums ever to emerge from Australia; passionate, alive, and in its own way, unique. There are two ways that one can approach the Sports - either as an extremely competent, good time rock band, or as a group of musicians who are involved in presenting a subtle comment on the desperate situations that often necessitate the 'good times'.

Their music represents a perfect synthesis of archetypal 50's romance and the cutting neurotic edge of life in the 70's. The songs range from the contagious enthusiasm of "Rockabilly Billy" to the urgent fear of "Reckless" and "I Put The Light On" and within that spectrum a whole cast of lovers and losers stalk through streets of fantasy, con-

fusion, triumph, and defeat. From the adolescent bravado of the opening track, "Boy's! (What Did The Detectives Say?) the protagonist moves through the fantasies of "Amazon" and "Modern Don Juan" to a point where those dreams are ruptured by betrayal - whether it be the desertion of a lover or the intrusion of reality:

"You can laugh, all that you like,
When you turn out the light
you're not so polite
In fact you're just like the rest . . .
And it makes my fear get dangerous,
You make my fear so reckless. . ."

Suddenly he perceives that moment when the glories of sex and the mythology of 'the night' can neither provide satisfaction nor salvation.

Like the greatest rock singers, Cummings manages to simultaneously infuse his vocals with arrogance and an almost breathless vulnerability as he treads the fine wire that divides the power of rock'n'roll from the probability of failure, and it is this dichotomy between fear and exhilaration that often establishes the perimeters within which great music is made.

The Sports seem to realize that the characters in the songs will ultimately pay the price of romant-



icizing their own fear and the final track "I Put The Light On" terminates the fantasy by acknowledging that the real dangers lie in the imagination.

In order to survive one must necessarily embrace reality and be prepared to accept that moment when the "radio is way up loud, and (you) can't hear a thing. . ."

Ultimately one cannot seek refuge in the facile dramas of the 50's and 60's because existence is now often defined in the horror movie that attacks at four in the morning when "the light" comes on, "the blood runs cold" and "the shadows are dancing up and down the walls".

Despite the ostensible naivete and playful teenage cadillac dreams, the Sports are well aware that our fear not only makes us reckless, but positively dangerous.

But the world isn't that serious . . . is it folks? Even if it is, the Sports have a very physical answer to that one and whether on record or the concert stage, this band plays its heart out.

The current advertising slogan for the band is "Good Sports Make Great Music," and at the moment there's no one in Australia that can touch them, so put your life on the line and get Reckless !!!!

John Magowan

BLAST FROM THE PAST

THE WIT OF SIR ROBERT MENZIES

Compiled by Ray Robinson
Outback Press (\$2.50)

This book has been published to cash in on the none too timely demise of Bob Menzies. There can be no reason, certainly no justification for its appearing otherwise.

It is a rushed job at that. Most of the quotes are tedious and present Menzies as a bore rather than a wit. For example, here are two quotes taken from what should have been the liveliest section, the Parliamentary quips across the floor:

After a broadcast praising professors' contributions to civilisation, a House questioner chided the Prime Minister about defending professors who from time to time make ponderous pronouncements, particularly on foreign affairs.

I did say a kind word about professors. It is true that professors sometimes make ponderous pronouncements on foreign affairs. It is equally true that I recently defended members of Parliament who, at times, make ponderous pronouncements on foreign affairs.

He was being questioned whether 'Advance, Australia Fair' would be played at the Melbourne Olympic Games, 1956, when Arthur Greenup (Labor, NSW) called: 'Waltzing Matilda!'

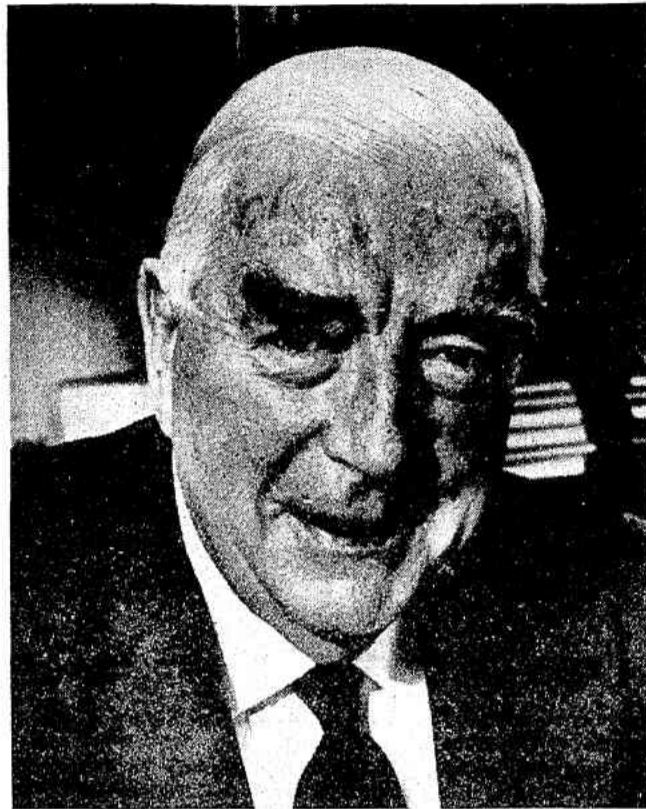
I've heard it around the world. I say nothing about the lamentable moral defects of the hero of the poem, but as an air it stirs the mind.

Another example of the book's sloppiness appears in the credits. Although the book contains no photographs, acknowledgments are made to no less than seven sources for photographs! Perhaps that's because this book is a reprint of a book hurriedly compiled by cricketer Ray Robinson in 1966 to cash in on Menzies' retirement!

All this, of course, serves to obscure history. Along with this book there appears other "memorabilia" such as "photograph-history" of Menzies, a "remembrance" or two. Everywhere the myth makers are at work. All the more reason to recount some of those aspects of Menzies' life that this gush covers.

For example, Menzies the great warmonger of WW2, Korea, Suez, Malaya, Vietnam so prepared to send others to their deaths, resigned from the Melbourne University regiment just before it was sent overseas in WW1.

Menzies the trade union basher, the red baiter, the supporter of fascist Italy's invasion of Albania, Menzies who sang the praises of Franco, Hitler and Mussolini as thousands of communists, socialists, trade unionists were being systematically arrested and or executed. Pig-iron Bob so named



Sir Robert Menzies before he died

because of the metal sold to militarist Japan used in the invasion of China. Menzies who persecuted left academics and students alike. The architect of the Petrov affair. This is the Menzies which such books as these hide from

history.

One can only hope that this book rots in the book shops or is quickly remaindered out of sight.

Ian Jordan.

RECORD

SWOP in the UNION

33-1/3 UNIVERSITY DISCOUNT RECORD SHOP

STOP PRESS!

opens

THIS WEEK.

Upstairs in the old TV room
10 am - 3 pm.
Monday to Friday.

gigantic opening RECORD SALE !!

100's of brand new L.P.'s at \$4.99!

ALSO STOCKING

ALL POP JAZZ ROCK CLASSICAL

AT \$1 LESS THAN RECOMMENDED RETAIL.

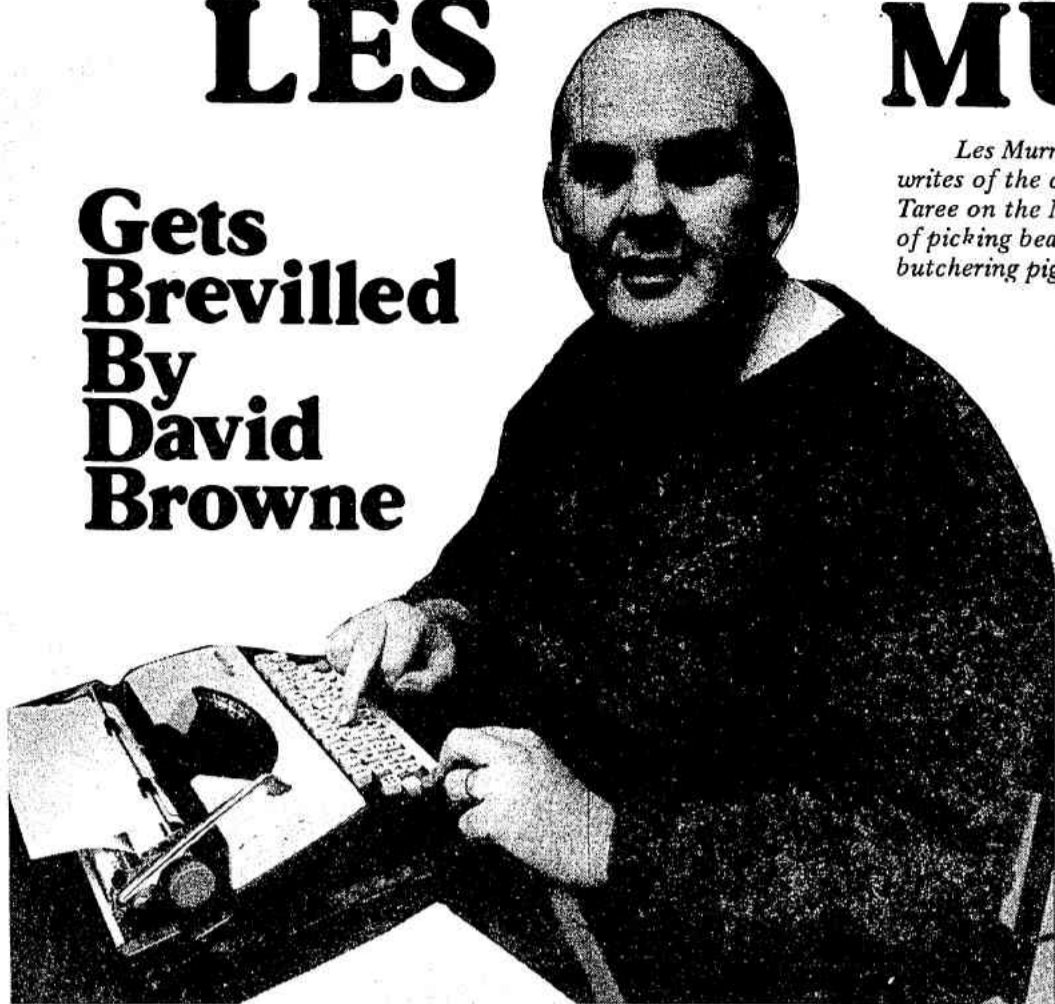


WORONI 21

LES

MURRAY

Gets Brevilled By David Browne



Les Murray is a rural poet. He writes of the countryside around Taree on the NSW coast. He writes of picking beans, milking cows, and butchering pigs.

Les Murray also lives in Chatswood, on the Sydney North Shore. Chatswood is packed with red-brick respectable philistines. Not the sort of place for a major poet, you'd think. Why not Balmain, or Glebe, or Canberra?

It says something about Les Murray that he likes Chatswood. He'll drive you down Pacific Highway in peakhour, telling you Kenneth Slessor lived in the suburb. Murray seems able to find value in almost anything, even the muscular spasms known as Sydney traffic jams.

Murray feels there is in Australia something called the "vernacular republic". It is "the real matrix of any distinctiveness we possess as a nation, and which stands aover against all of our establishments and colonial elites". Besides the older elites, Murray thinks a new leftist elite has grown in the last decade. He calls this new elite the "Ascendancy", and thinks it endangers the vernacular republic as much as any of the older elites.

I started the interview by asking Murray what sort of people were in the Ascendancy:

People in journalism, the academic pursuits, teaching to some extent. City tertiary-educated professions. Pop music

How does the Ascendancy differ from the ruling elite?

They're often interchangeable. The ruling elite is a fairly amorphous thing which includes the Ascendancy now. They have partly in their own field taken over. They now set the fashions and styles. This still holds after the 1977 elections.

Where is the Ascendancy now?

It varies in different fields. A certain branch of the Ascendancy, dominant in poetry and literature three years ago, is a lot less powerful now. During the Whitlam years, when a lot of healthy and useful progress was being made in some fields, things were quite savage and retrograde in poetry. The Ascendancy divided Australian literature from top to bottom.

How did it do that?

Before the Ascendancy, there was an age stratification in Australian literature as rigid as that in the NSW police force. It was an escalator. You would become Promising, then Young Established. What happened in the late 1960's was the setting-up of an alternative escalator. The alternative escalator has pretty well broken down now, but it scared a lot of people when it started. It was more like an alternative rocket. Rodney Hall was an early cog in setting up this escalator. Like all cogs, the escalator rapidly rolled over him. Tom Shapcott and John Blight also helped set up the escalator.

Where do you place yourself?

I worry about the increased estrangement of Australian literature from Australian people generally. It's pretended to become more proletarian, reflecting the interests of working people. It's in fact become more mandarin and enclosed than it was before. It's lost

its humane tone: now it's aggressive and rejecting.

But this experimentalism is part of a worldwide trend?

Right. It's part of the old bohemian merry-go-round. Experiments run on a fifteen-year cycle. Somebody gets the idea that you should break up your typography and write round in circles. I've seen that one 'invented' twice in my career. It goes back to the 19th century. None of it is distinctive to Australia.

What can we expect now, as experimentalism loses force?

A breathing space. It allows a few genuinely innovative things to be done, and allows those genuinely innovative things which have been done to be noticed. The bohemian ritual distracts us from true innovation: it makes literature look like just another boring branch of radicalism. It makes literature another vehicle for social climbing, rather than a great and ancient concern.

When you write, do you try to entertain rather than educate?

I do not make contemptuous concessions. I write of complex things, but I try to distil them and make them clear. The main function of poetry is to bridge personal and social divisions. The recent divisiveness in Australian literature has been painful to me.

You've called Australia's current political system the 'mercantile protectorate', and claim it suppresses creative energy. To what extent should an artist confront this political system?

Literature should have political things to say, but should not get tied to a political platform. Literature can change the spirit of a society, change the atmosphere.

You've said the 'vernacular' in Australia is a basis for identity. What do you mean by that?

Australia at its most distinctive is never quite serious. Real Australian culture is always done behind

the hand—the sardonic comment made at the side of the mouth after the platitudes have been uttered. I try to explore the nature of the Australian vernacular culture: the culture of workers, farmers, countryfolk. People outside the educated self-conscious urban classes.

What does this culture look like? Australia has a Boeotian culture, not an Athenian culture. It loves ceremony.

You've said that the vernacular republic needs to be a declared republic to be complete. Why? We are too insecure about our identity. The best thing about declaring a republic is that it stops worrying about our identity. It allows us to get onto the next thing, whatever that may be.

But we still suffer from imperialism. We are subservient to other powers. How can we complete our national identity if we are subservient in our day-to-day lives?

We would have at least put the opposing point to ourselves. We would know when we were subservient. It's certainly true we've priced ourselves out of any possibility of economic independence.

Without economic independence, isn't cultural independence an illusion?

Perhaps we need the illusion ever more strongly.

Would you mind moves towards cultural independence linking up with moves toward political independence?

I'd fear it. The worst thing that can happen to someone who talks of politics is to see his ideas come home to roost, carried by shouting men with flags. Your ideas turn into a nightmare being inflicted on people. But an independence of spirit might promote our efforts for independence in other fields.

Reading your work, I gather that you view the artistic spirit and

the vernacular spirit as being pretty close. Is that right?

I once said in a poem that those who listen have always been the republic.

Let's return to the Ascendancy. I think that professions such as teaching seem to attract many people who are interested in expressing not the vernacular spirit, but their own traumas and frustrations. Do you agree?

Yes. It's this idea of art as therapy. It's as wicked as the notion that education should be about creativity. Picking up an Australian education is something you've got to do outside the schools and universities.

If ordinary Australians have been alienated from literature by the Ascendancy, how will they start reacting to artistic expression again?

They will, when someone starts speaking to them in the right voice, when they see someone who is not snubbing them while he talks to them. People are not fools. They can discriminate and decide for themselves. Stuff inimicable to Australian identity will fall by the wayside. Some of this stuff has been needed as a corrective to us getting too smug and complacent. But God we've been overemphasizing that function. It's like preventing smugness with a crowbar. Australian culture in the last ten years has been so anti-Australian. Every part of Australian culture hitherto has been stamped on, spat on. Surely the masochistic streak is wearing thin.

You've said you're something of an artistic conservative. How do you view political conservatives in Australia — those people who you say suppress creative energies?

We have a political party ruling Australia now which many people call 'conservative'. In my opinion, it is not a conservative party. It is a mercantile party. That's why I call Australia a 'mercantile protectorate'. The Liberal Party is not conservative at all — it is opportunist.

your LEGAL REFERRAL SERVICE

it's free ...

“bringin' the law back home”

An interested group of law students and staff met in first term to discuss the feasibility of a Legal Referral Service run on campus for all students — whether part-time or full-time, undergraduates or postgraduates — and staff.

We were sure that such a service was needed at ANU for a number of reasons:

(1) Many people are uncertain as to whether they really have a legal problem on their plates or not and so are hesitant about going to a solicitor (whose fees are high regardless of whether his/her time is being wasted or not.

(2) Although there are two Legal Aid Offices in Canberra, there is, in addition, a voluntary lunchtime service run by members of the ACT legal profession at Beauchamp House but about which few people are aware.

(3) Students are probably more willing to talk to another student about their \$8 they paid out to have the loo fixed but which the landlord won't reimburse, rather than to a "professional" on a high salary who would think that sum a very small one indeed.

Having decided that such a service was needed and would be of use, the feasibility of actually putting it into practice had to be examined.

The first problem encountered was the Legal Practitioners' Ordinance which says people other than qualified lawyers must not practise in the ACT. The ACT Law Society was approached about the matter — its reply was that as long as we acted as a referral service (that is, a service which refers people with legal problems to recognized legal organizations or practitioners), and not as an advisory one (that is, a service which purported to give out legal advice), then everything should be in order.

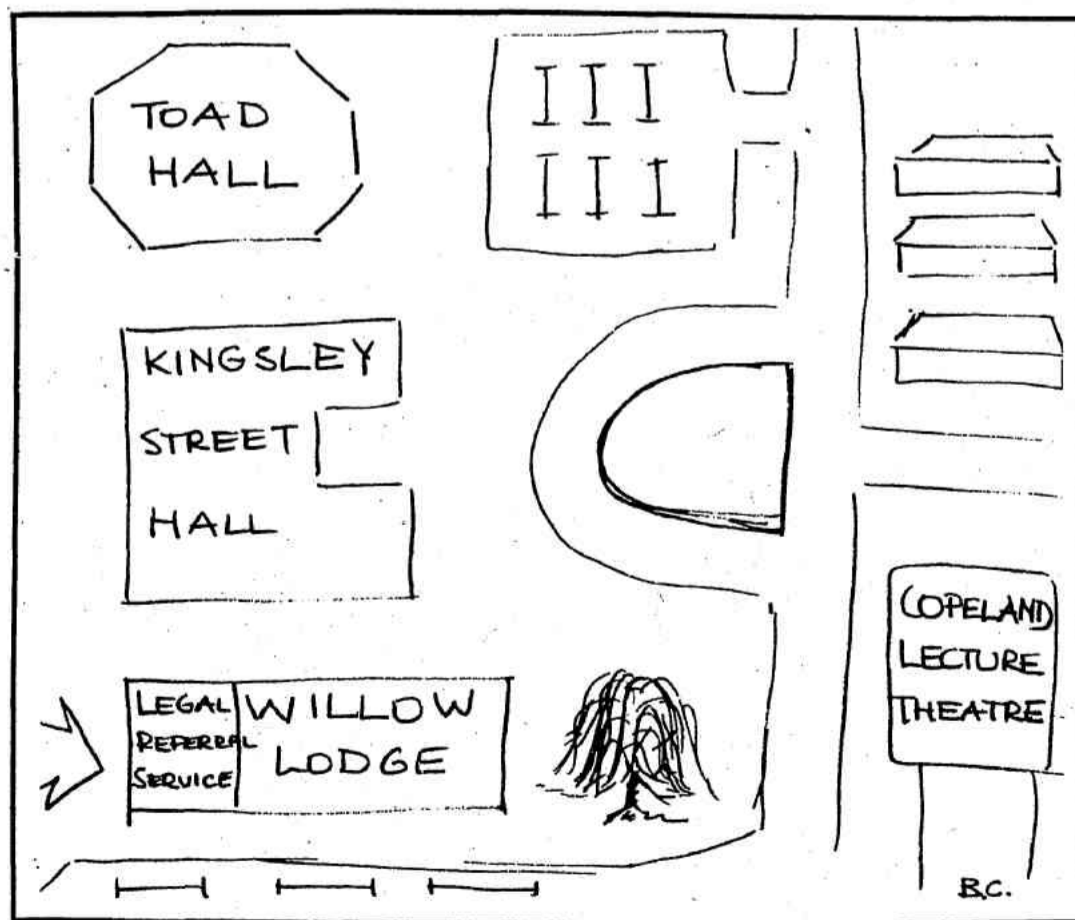
A number of meetings then followed to thrash out countless questions on how the service would be managed. It was eventually decided that two people would be rostered on every weekday from 12 noon till 2 pm. (This works out at about once a month for all those involved.)

The Students' Association was approached and a room was obtained for our use at those times. This was situated behind the S.A. Office in the Union Building. However, we are moving as from the beginning of second semester, we will be situated at the Kingsley Street Cottage near Toad Hall.

The Legal Referral Service has been advertised with the distribution of posters and leaflets. However this does not seem to have been a very effective way of advertising our existence as the number of people being helped is minimal. Whether this is attributable to bad advertising, a lack of legal problems amongst students and staff or other miscellaneous reasons, is uncertain. We feel, as I have already mentioned, that many people are uncertain whether theirs is a legal problem per se. When a person comes to the office we are able to advise them whether theirs is a legal problem, whether their thoughts are legally sound, what little lurks and quirks the law allows them to employ, and whether or not they are in danger or running counter to the whims of the legal system.



"I STILL SAY IT DOESN'T LOOK RIGHT."



Not
18.047



THE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING GAME

FOR ALL AGES, FROM PRE-PUBESCENCE TO BENILITY!
LOADS OF LAUGHS! FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE RULES
FOR HOURS OF FUN:-
ANY NUMBER GREATER THAN 50 CAN PLAY.
PLAYERS MOVE AROUND THE BOARD ACCORDING
TO THE THROW OF A DIE. DIRECTIONS MUST
BE FOLLOWED:- THE PLAYER WHO BREAKS
THE MOST GLASSES WINS.

START
MEETING
OPENS

MOVE AHEAD 3
 Bite Walton
on foot

END!
QUORUM LAPSES,
HEAD FOR THE
BAR.

YOUR
MOTION
REJECTED
BACK
7

GO TO BAR.
MISS 3 MOVES.

Lake supports
your motion
BACK TO START
 BREAK
1 GLASS

BREAK
4
GLASSES

BREAK
2 GLASSES

NO SPEAKERS
AGAINST YOUR
MOTION.
MOVE AHEAD 2.

GAMES ROOM
THROW A 6 TO GET OUT

Tim Nicholson
speaks
MISS 2 MOVES

BREAK
3 GLASSES

CARMEN FORGETS
MANTRA. GO TO
GAMES ROOM.

BREAK
2
GLASSES

BREAK
5
GLASSES

HAR HAR! YOUR INTERSECTION
HOOT! LAUGHED AT
GUFFAW! MOVE AHEAD
ARR-HAR-WA ARR-SMUGGER!
4.

UNPOINTED SERGEANT- AT
ARMS. MOVE
AHEAD 1
 YARBLEY
CALLS
POLICE.
 LOSE
GAME

Lose voice
during personal
explanation
MISS 1 MOVE